

Dear mouse friends,
Welcome to the world of

THE RODENT'S GAZETTE EDITORIAL STAFF

Geronimo Stilton

A learned and brainy

mouse; editor of

The Rodent's Gazette

Thea Stilton

Geronimo's sister and

special correspondent at

The Rodent's Gazette

Trap Stilton

An awful joker;

Geronimo's cousin and

owner of the store

Cheap Junk for Less

Benjamin Stilton

A sweet and loving

nine-year-old mouse;

Geronimo's favorite

nephew

New York Toronto London Auckland Sydney Mexico City New Delhi Hong Kong Buenos A Scholastic Inc.

Field Trip To Niagara Falls

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www.geronimostilton.com

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Stilton is the name of a famous English cheese. It is a reg of the Stilton Cheese Makers' Association. For more infor www.stiltoncheese.com.

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Oh, how I hate

BeIng Late!

"Rain, rain, go away." It was the roof the night. I was in my comfy, trying to sleep. But the rain woon

my window like a crazed wood₁
I fell asleep dreaming about bire
pounding ocean waves and hug

waterfall s.

It rained the whole night. The number morning, I woke up exhausted.

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speed

I was late! Oh, how I hate being
I hurled myself into the bath
turned

on the shower while brushing not combed my whiskers while pull pants. I chugged down my coffe racing out the door. Rats!

I ran at BREAKNECK to

my aunt Sweetfur's house. Tha my little nephew Benjamin live promised to take him to school today. Benjamin giggled when he sa had

had
forgotten to button my pants. A
was sticking up all over the place
On the way to school, we passed
my office. I run the most

FAMOUSE

daily

newspaper on Mouse Island. It is called The Rodent's Gazette.

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Benjamin tugged on my paw.
may
I take my friends to visit y
Gazette

sometime?" he asked.

I S m

il e

d. My nephew was such a swee

and smart little mouse. Maybe he

would follow in my pawsteps an newspaper, too.

"Of course, dear nephew," I said Finally, we arrived at Be school.

What a zoo!

Little rodents were
running everywhere. Some h
their

parents' paws. Others tumble school
bus. Some zipped up on bicyc

SO

loud I could barely hear myself school bus

Just then, the school bell rang.

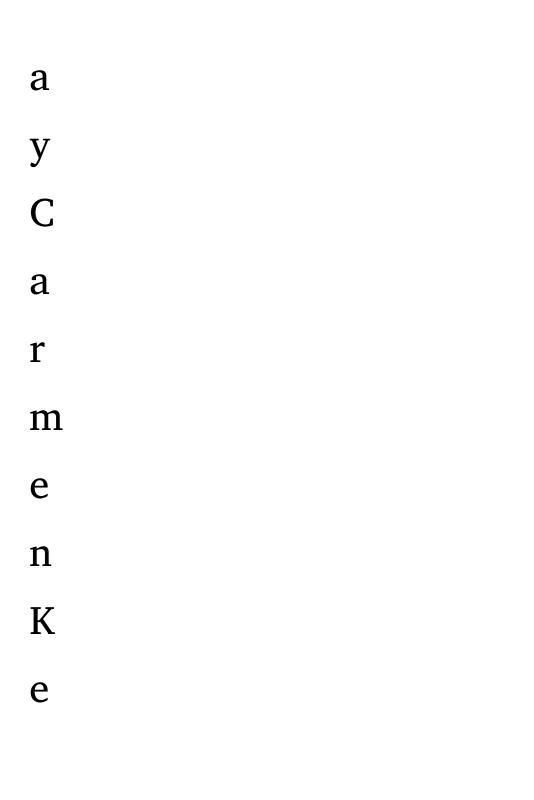
I nearly jumped out of my fur. A
was when I spotted a blonde r
she wasn't just any blonde rode

she wasn't just any blonde rode had gorgeous fur. She had a SWeet smile. And she had blu the color of a clear summer sky "Good morning, I am Miss At

Paws, Benjamin's teacher," sh

I took a step toward her. But be could shake her paw, I tripped of I landed snout first in the dirt.

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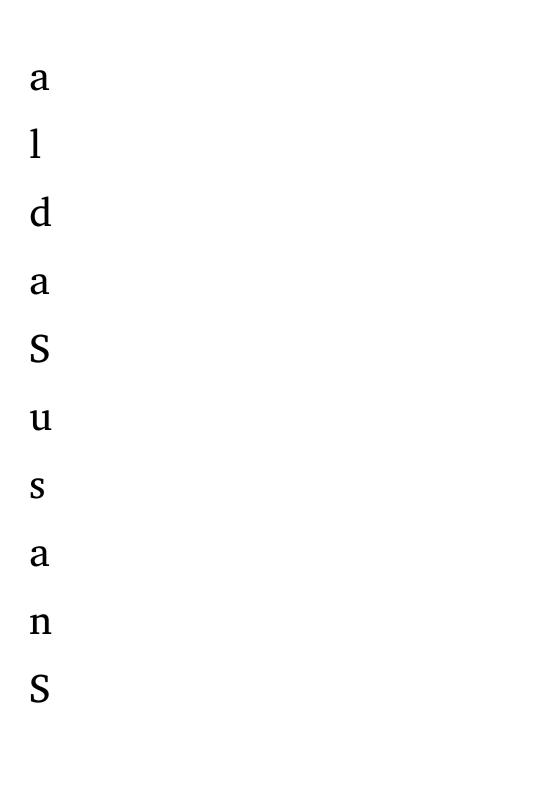
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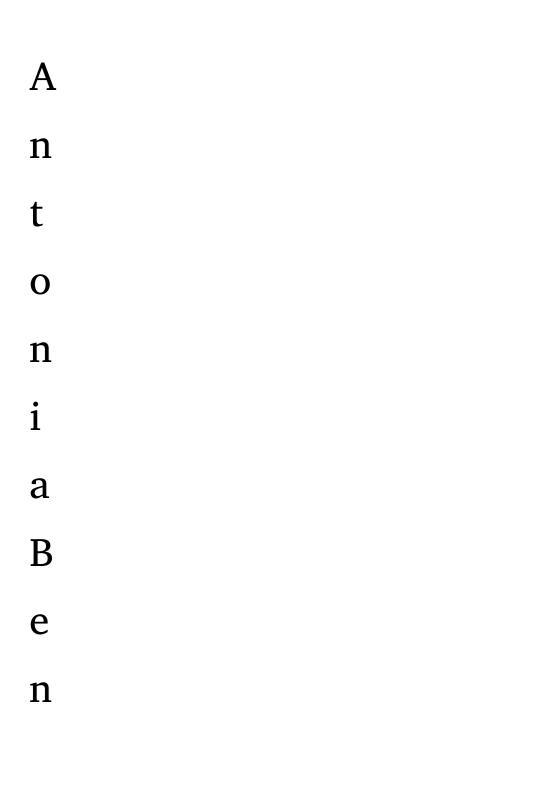
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Don't Worry

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BOut a thIng!

I turned to run away with between

my legs. I was so embarrassed I have to make a fool of myself

such a pretty mouse?

"Today, we'll decide where to go field trip," I heard Miss Angel Paws ar

Hmm. Field trip. Suddenly, I had Maybe the class could come v

The

Rodent's Gazette. Then the teac see I wasn't just a clumsy, mouse.

"Oh, good, Mr. Stilton, you have wanted to ask for your adv

I strode back into the classroom

Angel

Paws squeaked. "Do you think good place to go on a field trip?"

She began writing something or blackboard. I would love to tell it said, but I couldn't read it. No written in ancient Squeakeeze. Couldn't **See** a thing. That's because

class bully, Punk Rat, had tri
on
my way in. I had lost my eyegla
The teacher tapped on the

"What

do you think, Mr. Stilton?" she

squinted desperately

board.

I felt like one of the three blind

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Everything looked foggy. The thought of something. Maybe Angel Paws wanted to visit The Gazette. Maybe that's what she ha on the board. Yes, that had to b decided. That's why she wanted "I think that's a great idea!"

teacher. "I would love to take y

Miss Angel Paws was amazed. "

the

Mr. Stilton?" she squeaked.

"Of course," I said. "And don't of Mr. Stilton. . . . Call me Geronia "But who will pay for it? When ca

"But who will pay for it? When can Don't you have to work?" asked "Don't worry about a thing," I to can take a little time off. You my

guests. We can go today if you

."
The teacher squealed with delig

clapped her paws together. what,

class? Mr. Stilton—I mean G has volunteered to take all of us to

Falls for a whole week!" she and "We'll leave today!"

cheered.

The class

"Hooray! We're going to Niag Thank you, Mr. Stilton!" they cried I blinked.

Punk Rat pulled at one of my w

"Of course. Can't you read? Loo blackboard," he smirked, handi glasses. I put them on. I stared at the

Class Trip To

blackboard. It read

Niagara Falls

I gulped. Oh, how did I get myself into such a mess?

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The teacher was already call travel agency. "Yes, twenty-two st

and Geronimo Stilton.

twenty-

teacher,

Falls,"
she samesked into the phone

four round-trip tickets to

she squeaked into the phone.

What could I do? The class was excited they could hardly sit a With a sigh, I took out my credit ca TOP MOUSE DIAMOND-PLUS-SUPER-DELUXE-EXTRA-SUPREME-G It was a good thing I had it. This

going to **COSt** me more that year subscription to the Cheese-of-th Club!

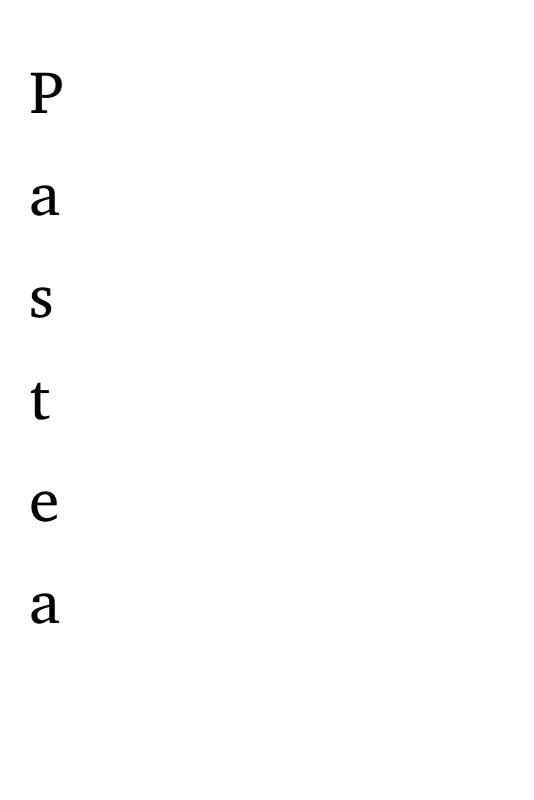
After booking our trip, the waved

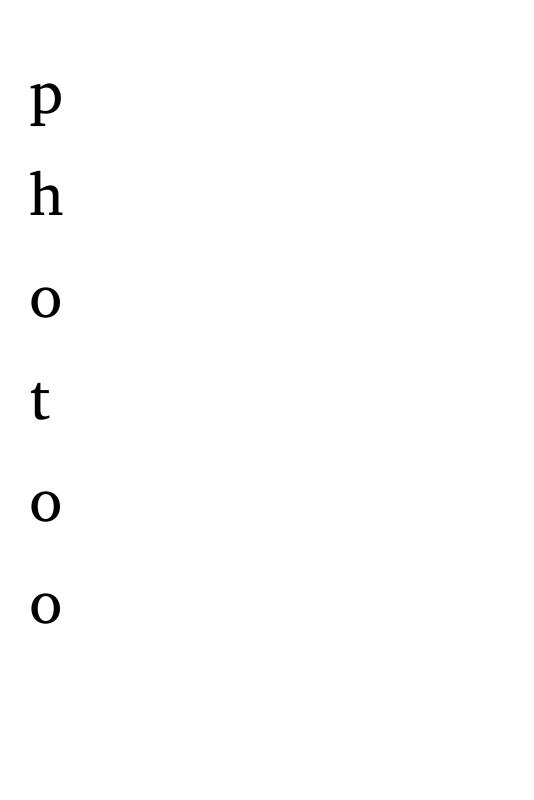
- a yellow notebook in the air.
- "Class, this notebook will be ou journal," she announced. "We in
- it every day. That way, we will forget this wonderful trip."

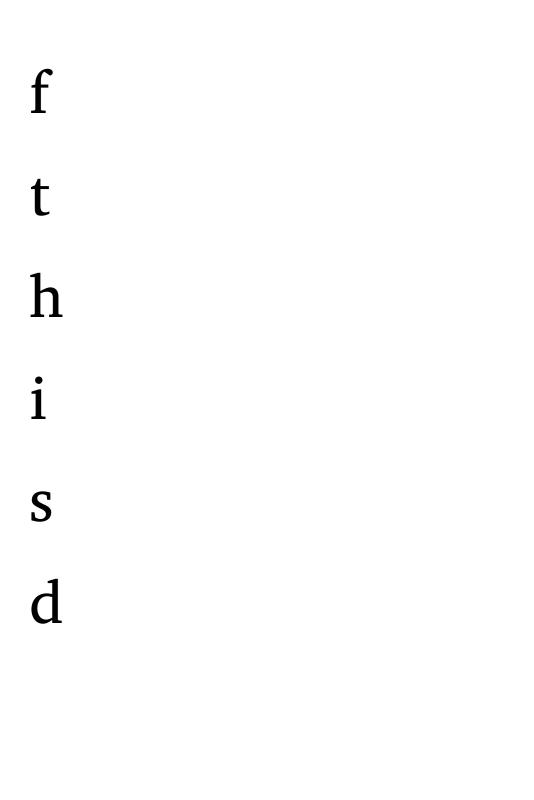
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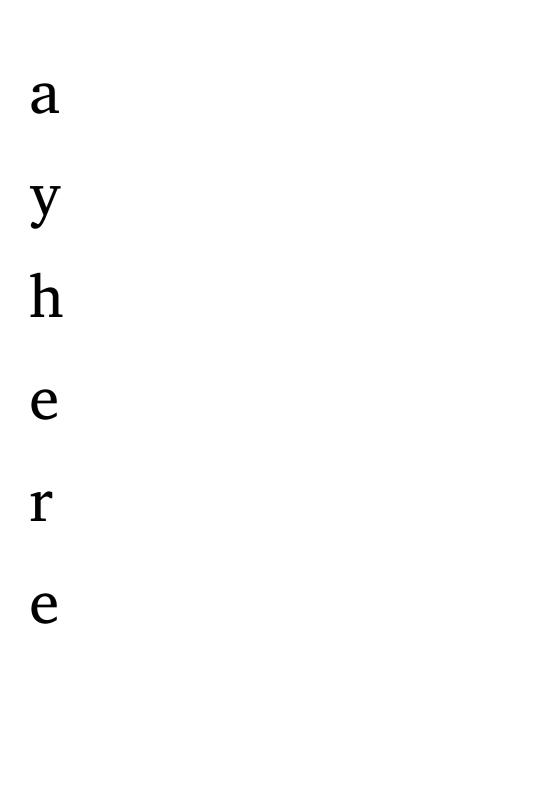
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are We there yet?

Do you know how to get to Niag Let me tell you. The falls are lo border of the United States and They are very far from Mouse Is flight was the longest one of my OK, maybe it wasn't the longest, but it was the WOrst. That's because . . . Sakura smeared ice cream on my tie

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David pulled out one of my whiskers
•
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•
Scampers spilled orange juice on my computer
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Scampers spilled **Orange jui** computer.

Sakura smeared ice cream of David pulled out one of my white Carmen knocked down my suite

Esmeralda squeaked my e
Tim asked me

317

times, "Are we

there yet?"

The whole time I tried desperately to read my book on Niagara Falls.

Tim asked me 317 times

•

•

Carmen knocked down my suitcase

•

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•

Esmeralda squeaked and squeaked

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Niagara Falls

Located at the border of the United Statest)
and Canada (on the west), the falls are formwaters of the Niagara River. During the jour Lake Erie and Lake Ontario, the river sudd

more than 180 feet to the level of the forming

falls unique in their power.

There are actually two different falls a On

the Canadian side there is Horseshoe Falls, mately 2,500 feet wide, while Rainbow Fal

American side, is approximately 1,000 feet

In the winter, the river freezes, but the fall because they are in continuous movement. Every second, more than 790,000 gallons of Niagara Falls is also a precious source of cal energy. Approximately 50 percent of the night, 75 percent) is directed to the h power plants that supply the United States and Canada with electricity.

plants that supply the United State and Canada with electricity.

But the power of the water is creating a problem for the future of the falls. In the past 12,000 years, the water running over the rocks has eroded them and shifted the falls by

almost seven miles.

Niagara Falls

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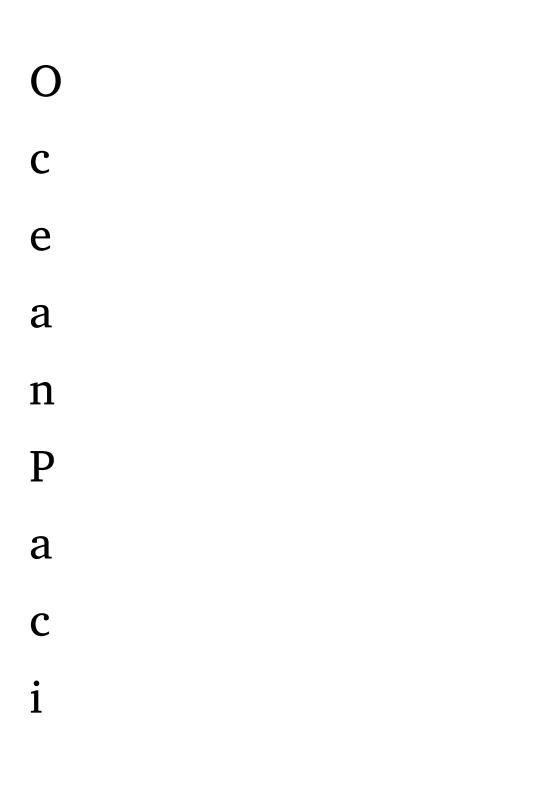
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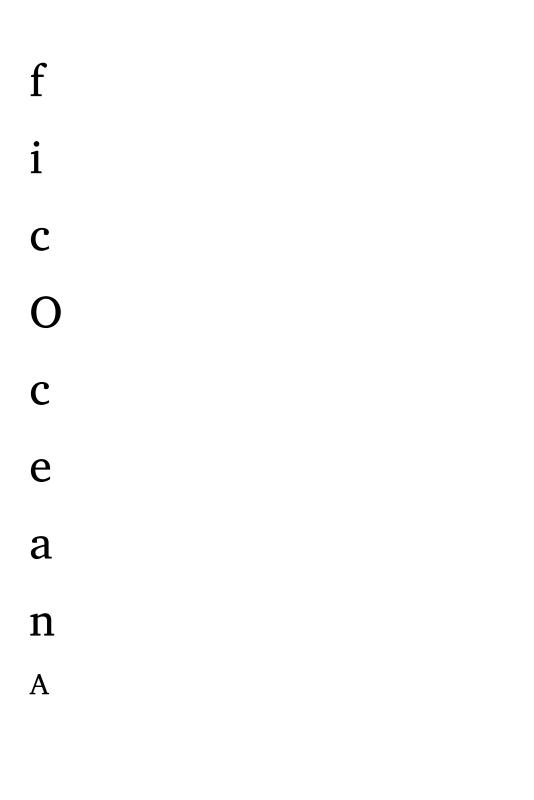
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RAINBOW FALLS HORSESHOE FALLS CANADIAN FALLS Whirlpool Rapids Bridge Rainbow Bridge N i a g a r a P

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A BIT OF HISTORY . . .

THE ERA OF EXPLORATION

For centuries, only the Native America what is now the border between the U Canada knew about the spectacular falls. T news of their exis tence dates back to the the sixteenth century. The man who mad was Louis Hennepin, a Belgian monk who expedition or ga nized by the French explo Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle. The expedit the falls in December 1678, and its members were mesmerized by their size and grandeur. At that time, the falls had

a drop in level of more than 590 feet and carried twice as much water as they do now. THE FIRST
TOURISTS
Tourism w

Tourism was slow to arrive. One of the first important vis-

its occurred in 1791, when the duke of Kent

(father of the future

Queen Victoria of

En gland) stayed at the only building in the area: a small wooden

The first groups of tourists began arrived mid-1800s. The falls continued to attraguests, such as Jerome Bonaparte, brothe

Napoleon. He came from New Orleans on I From that moment on, Niagara Falls beca destination for couples on their honeymoor

everyOne,

except Me!

Just before our **plane** landed, made an announcement.

"

Attention

,

rodents: We are now

passing over the famouse Niagara Falls. Take a look out your window if you would like to see a truly spectacular view of the falls, Everyone wanted to see the fal Everyone leaped to the window Everyone saw the spectacular v **EXCEPT ME!**

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I was being suffocated by a throscreaming, jumping mouselets.

pressed

themselves up against my winde

themselves up against my winder couldn't move. I couldn't breath see a thing!

Finally, the plane landed. We we Toronto. Canada. From there, w

Toronto, Canada. From there, wo on a bus. We rode on the bus for t

. Then we arrived at the falls. e Η a h a h a Η

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As we pulled up, the driver made announcement: "We have no the famouse Niagara Falls. Loc window if you would like to se spectacular view of the falls ", he said.

Everyone wanted to see the fal Everyone leaped to the window Everyone saw the spectacular v

ExcEpt mE!

A throng of screaming more

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crawling all over me. They plastered themselves

up against my window. I couldr couldn't breathe. I couldn't see a

The bus stopped. I got off. The

sound of the falls was incredible.

I tried to take a nicture

I tried to take a picture.

Everyone wanted to take a p

the falls.

Everyone got his or her came
Everyone snapped away at the

ExcEpt mE!

Oh, if only I could get away from

screaming mouselets. They

over me! I couldn't move. I could

The bus took us to

I couldn't see a thing!

the city of Niagara

Falls on the lake. It was already dark.

ExcEpt

mE

!

I Do not Know ho

tO Set Up a tent!

What a day! I was

tired

. I was hungry.

I stumbled off the bus. I cou

to sink into a nice soft bed. I co

wait to put on my fluffy cat-fur couldn't wait to order from room. "Is the hotel nearby?" I yawned pooped."

Miss Angel Paws looked she "Hotel? Why, Mr. Geronimo, we come to enjoy the great outdoors going to a hotel. We're going to o u t

," she squeaked.

My eyes opened wide. I looked

Miss Angel Paws wasn't joking. standing in the middle of the was

quick

Did I mention I'm not much of a mouse?

"Um, yes, well, who's going to stents?" I stammered.

Miss Angel Paws rolled her eyes

"You are, of course, Mr. Geronia said.

I made a calculation: There wer

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-four

of us. Each tent would

hold

four

mice. That meant I had to set up

six

tents for the little mice. Then w need

one

tent for me and

one

for

Miss

Angel Paws

. Plus, we needed

one

big

tent for all of us to eat breakfas

Holey cheese! I couldn't set up : tents!

Just then, the little mice began

"Come on! We're tired!"

I couldn't make heads or tails of the

I do Not Know How to Set Up a teNt!

I set up one tent inside out. myself

up in another and couldn't get of whacked my paw with a hamme

"I give up!" I screeched.

Did I mention I'm not mucl outdoor

mouse? I sat down on a rock.
my

glasses so I could sob freely.

Just then, my little nephew Ben whispered in my ear.

"Call Aunt Thea. She always

what to do," he suggested.

I dried my tears. "Good idea," I
I guess you could say my siste
the

opposite of me. She loves a chall A half hour later, after I talked on

the phone, all of the tents were

"Hooray!" yelled the little m

"Isn't it **great** sleeping in a te

Geronimo?" Miss Angel Paws sa

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Pull the

lateral

ropes and

stabilize

the tent by

staking the

ropes.

Dig a

drainage ditch around the tent. You'll need it in case of rain. **Assemble** the frame by connecting the poles, and hook the tent to the frame. Mount the rain tarp

and attach

it well with

the stakes.

Drainage ditch for

water runoff

NO

NO

NO YES

Where to Set Up a Tent

Choose a flat

area or one

on a gentle

slope that is

well protected

from the wind.

Lay the

tent flat

and stake

the

corners.

tent

a

How to Set up

I Do not Know

h

Ow tO COOK at

a CaMpsIte!

I was so tired I could only nod. heard a low grumble. Was it a it

a fox? Was it a ravenous, roc monster? No, it was just my was

starving!

who will do the cooking

"Why, you will, of course, Mr. Go

?" I asked.

"So,

Miss Angel Paws said.

The little mice began screaming "Come on! We're starving!" they w

I sighed. I trudged to the brook to water. But on the way back

The water flew out of the bucke

I decided to get the **fire** started

I went to get some more wood a accidentally stepped on the egg

CrunCh

!

Then I noticed an army of ants. I devouring all of the bread.

"I give up!" I squeaked. Did I menot much of an outdoor mouse?

"Try calling Aunt Thea again," I whispered. "She'll know what to

A half hour later, the fire was re Now if I could just get the ants

bread. . . .

H

OW

to Cook

outdoorS

Bind three wooden poles together. Then hang a pot on a chain that has been secured at the top of the poles.

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Arrange several clean, flat rocks so they are heated by a fire underneath. You can cook eggs, fish, or meat on top of them.

Flat rocks

Arrange two forked sticks across from each other on either side of the fire. Hang the pots on a strong piece of wood, and then place each end of the wood in the forks.

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THE FIRE

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ires Unattended!

Before you light a fire, find out the wind's direction. Always be aware of the danger of fires! Keep a bucket of water nearby to put out the fire and always get help from an adult.

coMe On!

we have to go!

After we ate, I fell asleep with ramy plate. I woke up with a study "Psst, psst, Mr. Geronimo!" a vocalled.

It was Miss Angel Paws.

"Mr. Geronimo, you, um, forgot

a bathroom," she whispered.

I paled. A bathroom? "Come on! We have to go!" the litt

squeaked.

This time, I knew exactly what

I called my sister. I wasn't prou desperate. After all, who knew l

up a bathroom outdoors?

Of course, my sister figured it

Half an hour later, the bathroom finished. And so was I. I crawled sleeping bag and slept like a ter of stale cheese. Even a starving couldn't have moved me.

3. Build a tripod. Hang a bucket with water to use as a makeshift shower.

Leave a big pile of dirt

1. Dig a hole.

next to the hole. After each use, throw some piled-up dirt into the hole.

2. Use some wooden poles and a tarp to build a screen around the toilet.

4. Build another tripod. Place a bowl on to wash

your paws and snout.

THE TOILET

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How to Make a BatHro

flashlights

What a Stink!

What a Smell!

W

hat a Stench!

I woke up in the middle of the i

awful stench surrounded me. It worse than my cousin Trap's ransoup. It smelled worse than my Onewhisker's disgusting brussels sprout soufflé I opened my eyes. A black-and-weight

eyes stared back at me.

I jumped out of the sleeping
bag, squeaking at the top of
my lungs.

creature with two beady little

snapped on all over the campsite.

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"

What a stink

!"

"

What a smell

!"

"

What a stench

!" I heard the other

```
campers
cry
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J

I couldn't have agreed more. I so thime in when I heard some more. Where is it coming from?" one

"That tent there," another answ "That's the rodent from New Mo

The one named Geronimo St third cried.

someone else piped up.

another muttered.

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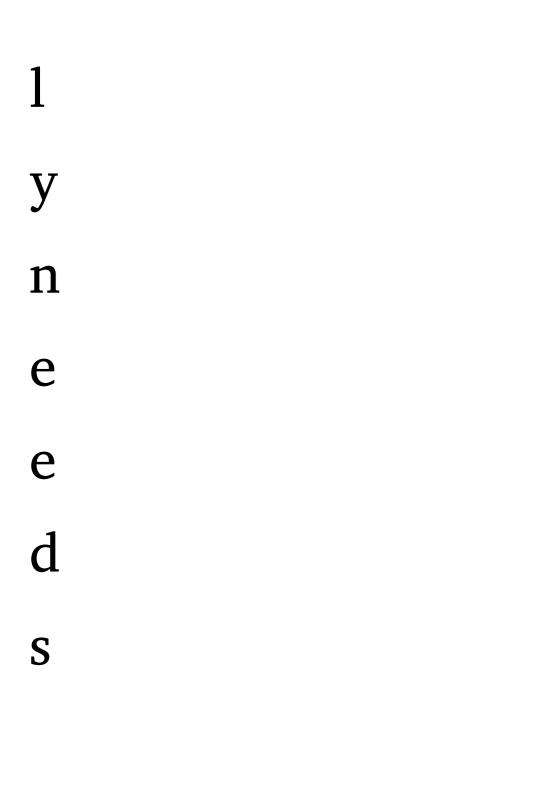
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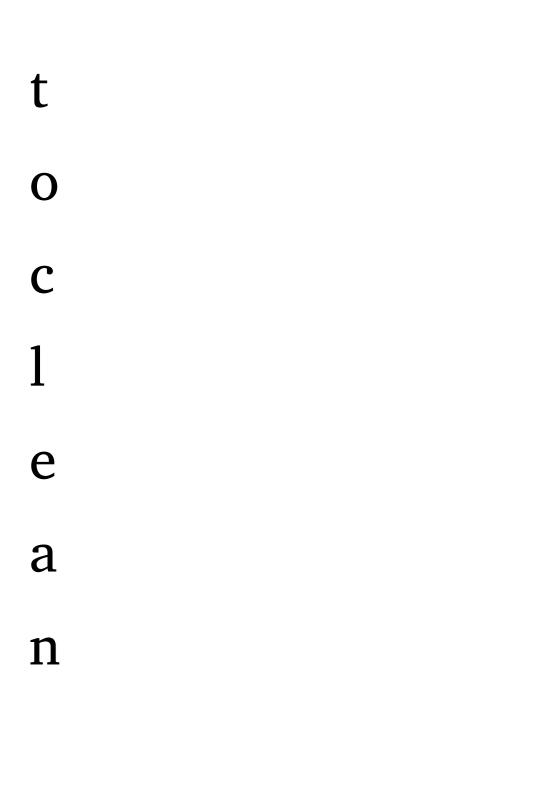
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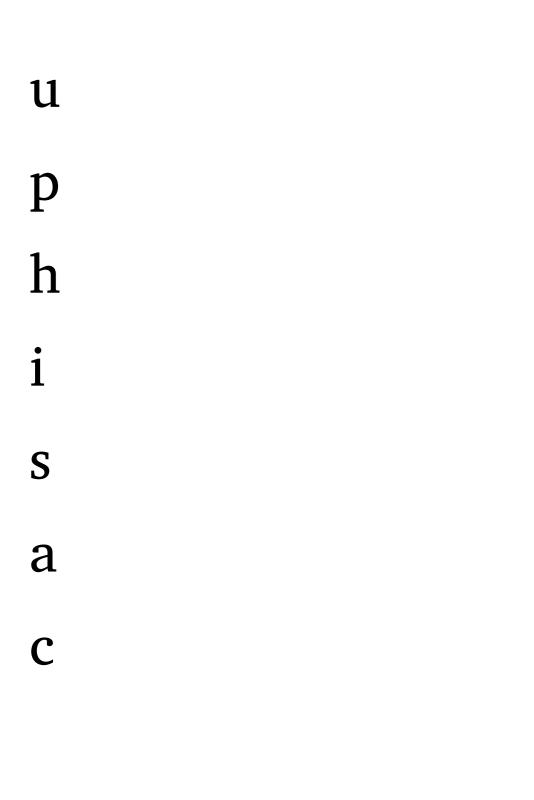
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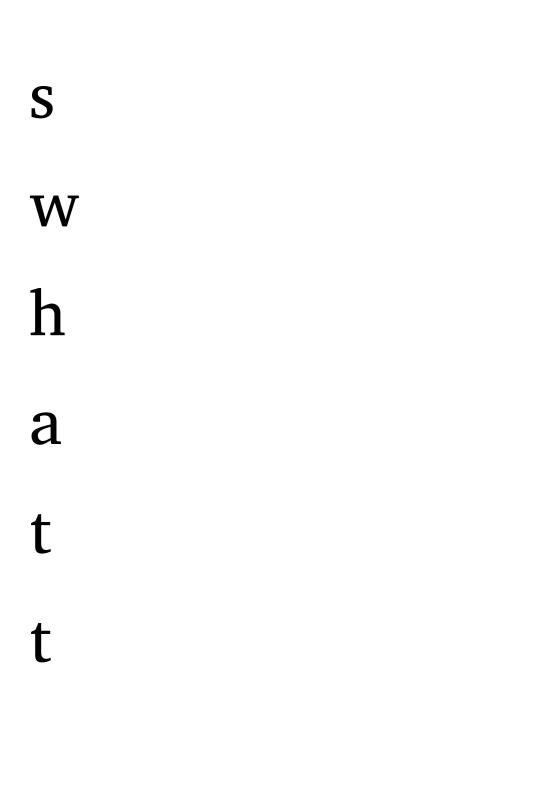
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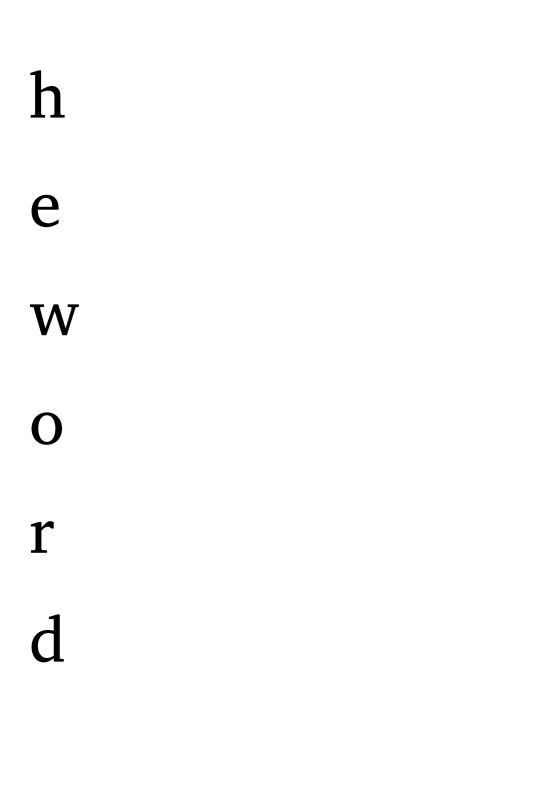
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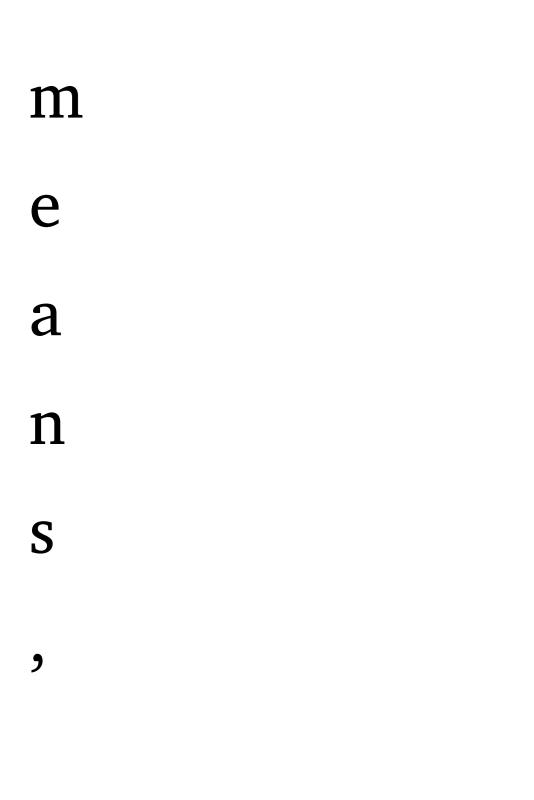




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I turned beet red. How could the about me that way? I'm no mouse.

I love taking baths.

black

But there was no time to think a bubble bath now. I had to defer

"I'm not the **Stinky** one," I state explain. "It was that creature. It

fur with a **white** stripe . . . "

Punk Rat snickered. "What creature? I don't see any creature," he smirked.

Then he began to sing in a

high-pitched voice: "Geronimo sees things in the dark.

A slug, a squirrel, a gia shark!"

Benjamin grabbed my paw. "Un

you really see a creature?" he we will when I nodded, he stuck his snow 41

Punk Rat

tourist guide. I guess he was properties he didn't know me. I couldn't be him. Everyone thought I was los

whiskers.

At that moment, Benjamin begasqueaking. He held up the showed a picture of the creature.

"See, my uncle was right!" my 1

told Punk Rat. "The creature he called a **Skunk**!"

a Wall Of

rushIng Waters

The next morning, we woke dawn.

After breakfast, we hiked along I was tired. You probably alread that I am not a morning mouse.

Finally, I would be able to see

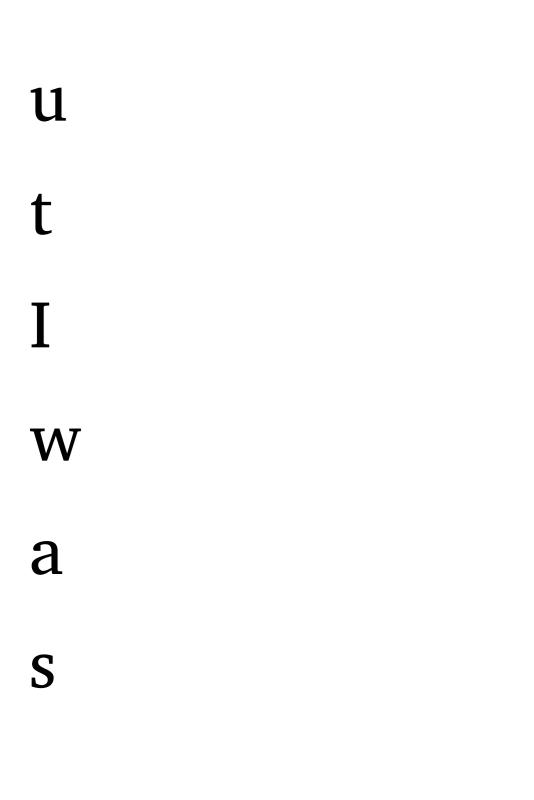
Niagara Falls!

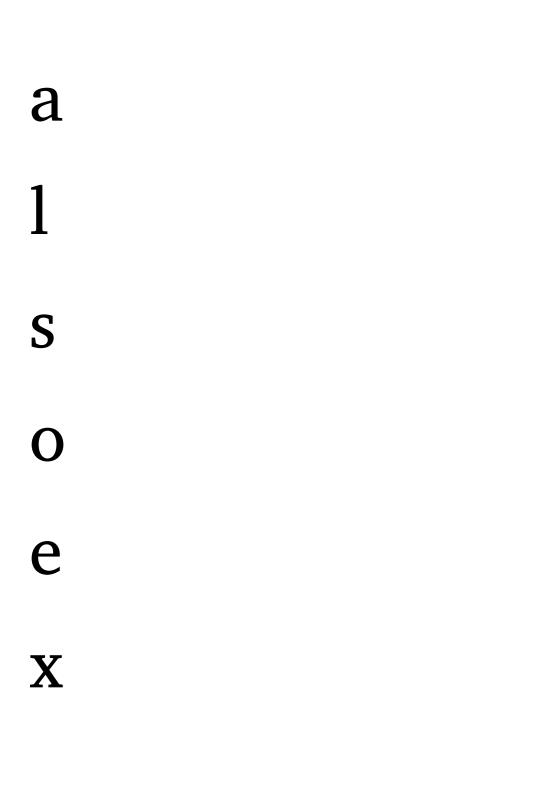
Our paws crunched through the thick autumn leaves of yellered, and brown. The air smeand and fresh. Don't you just love autum love everything about it. Oh, ex

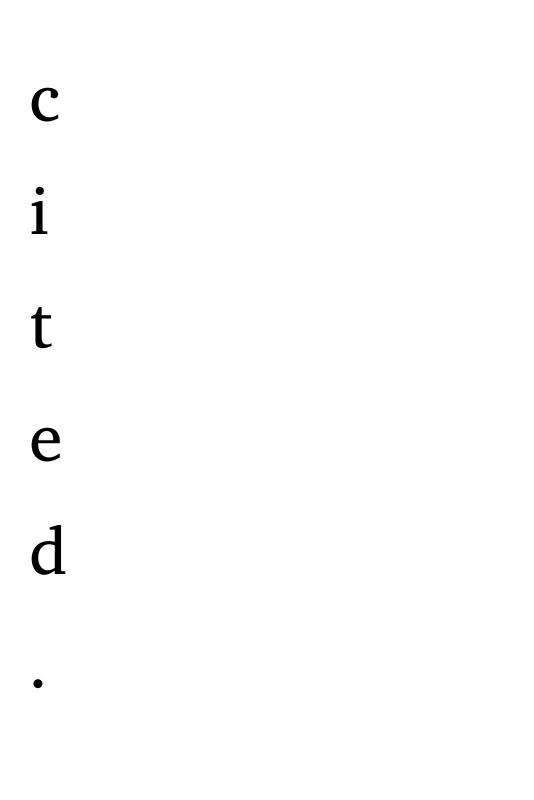
I started thinking about the Hal

Halloween. I'm not big on scary

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party my cousin Trap was throwing the said he was going to dig skeleton

and serve frozen eyeballs for de Just then, I felt like my own had frozen. Well, my eyeballs and my body, that is. I was start

tremendous
wall of rushing water. We ha
the

falls! The river rumbled like the

r a 1

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A magnificent rainbow made over

the falls.

Ah, what an unbelievable sight! have stood and admired the fa

I

just had one little problem: The water was getting to me. With a took off in search of a bathroom

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For thousands of years, only the Attawandarons, a peaceful tribe who lived in the territory that bordered the land of the warring Iroquois, knew about Niagara Falls. In the course of their long journeys, the Attawandarons, who were also called the Neutrals, were attracted by a loud noise and discovered the falls. They named them Onguiaahra, which means "thundering waters."

NORTHEAST

Algonquin: A tribe with lands in the Ottawa River Iroquois: A large confederation of tribes, including Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscarora.

matriarchal society: The chiefs are chosen by the clar the oldest and wisest woman.

Attawandarons: A non-warring tribe that lived or of lakes Huron, Erie, and Ontario.

SOUTHEAST

Cherokee: A tribe in Tennessee and North Car A Cherokee leader, Sequoya, invented an alphabet for

Cherokee language that was made up of eighty-five sy Creek: A confederation of tribes from Alabama, Go

and Florida.

Seminole: A tribe that emigrated to Florida and a many runaway slaves.

SOUTHWEST

Apache: A group of tribes (Mescalero, San Carlos,

Apache Peaks, Mazatzal, and others) that share the saguage. Skilled warriors, they were the last to surrend white settlers. Famous chiefs include Geronimo and Canavajo: Native people of northern New Mexico ar Arizona, they are famous for their craftwork, includir blankets, rugs, and jewelry.

Pueblo: A group of tribes in Arizona and New Mer.
This term also refers to the flat-roofed stone or adobe houses in which these Native Americans traditionally lived. Their houses were sometimes several stories his

NATIVE AMERICANS

PLAINS

Cheyenne: A nomadic tribe, the Cheyenne once limade from long poles and buffalo skins. They were shunters.

Comanche: Warriors feared by all, the Comanche skilled horsemen.

dyed their moccasins black.

Sioux: A group of tribes, also known as the Lakota

Blackfoot: Famous for their shoemaking ability, the

Crazy Horse, and Red Cloud are famous Sioux chiefs.

HIGHLANDS AND LOWLANDS

Nez Percé (or Pierced Noses): A peaceful tribe in a Washington, and Oregon, who once wore objects pier their noses.

Shoshone: Buffalo hunters in California, Idaho, No and Wyoming, they sought peace with white settle Indian wars.

CALIFORNIA

Hoopa: A tribe of artisans who traditionally lived alc houses made of cedar. They ate acorns and salmon.

Wintu: A tribe whose economy was once based on salmon, and acorns.

NORTHWEST

of the Columbia River in Oregon.

Tlingit: A tribe skilled in working cedar wood and

Chinook: Famous salmon merchants on the north

on the islands and coast of Alaska.

All AboArd!

A few minutes later, I was back

falls. Miss Angel Pa

making

an announcement.

"We will now board a boat ca

Maid

of the Mist that will take us to

she

told the class. "Please do not

the side."

We put on shiny raincoat we

climbed aboard the boat.

fog

It sailed straight up the Niagara Everything looked so different f A mist rose up from the spray water. We were so close to the I dug my paws into the railing of deck. The water churned below glad we were all safe on the bo

well. No one could say I was sti

The sprays of water soaked my

I looked around. We were surby

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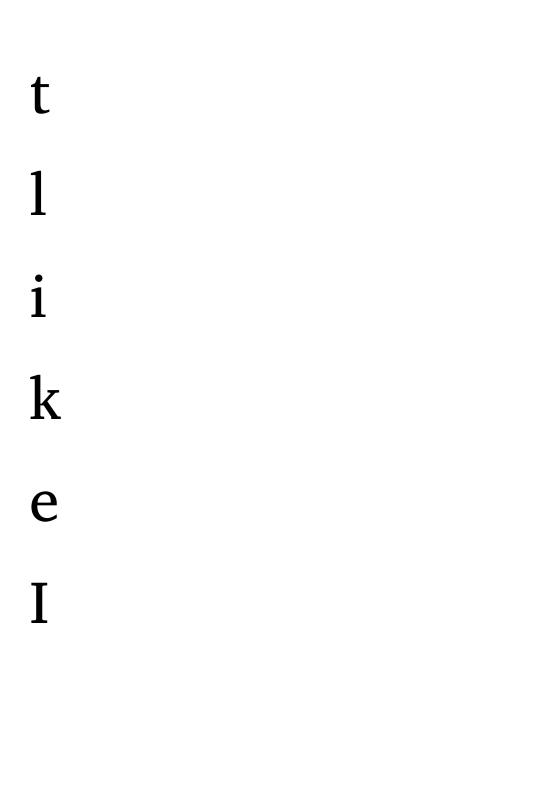
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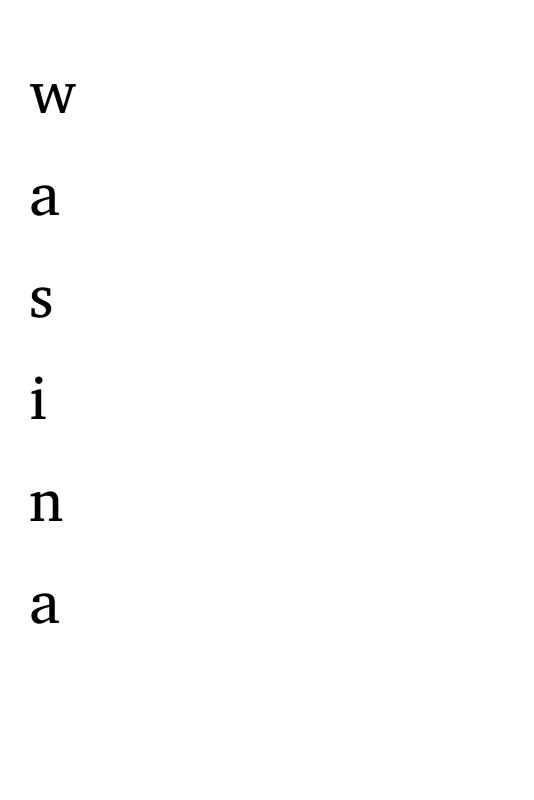
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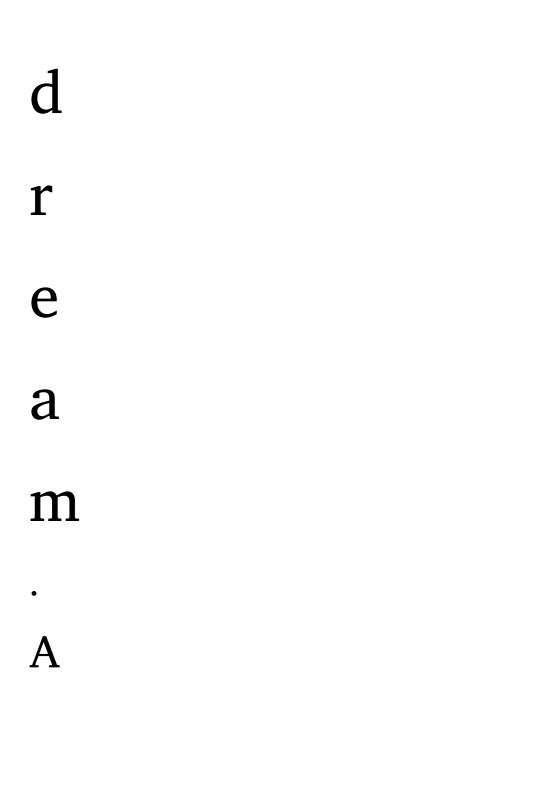
Just then, I remembered a stor had

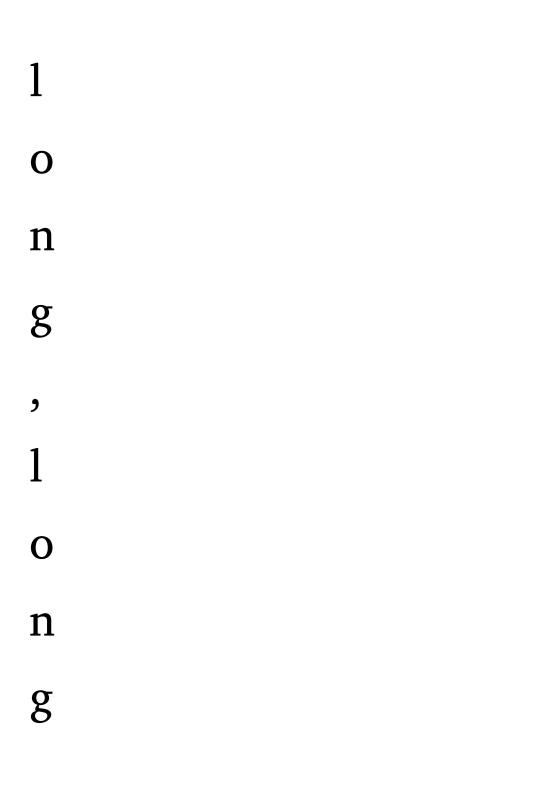
read about Niagara Falls. I told class.

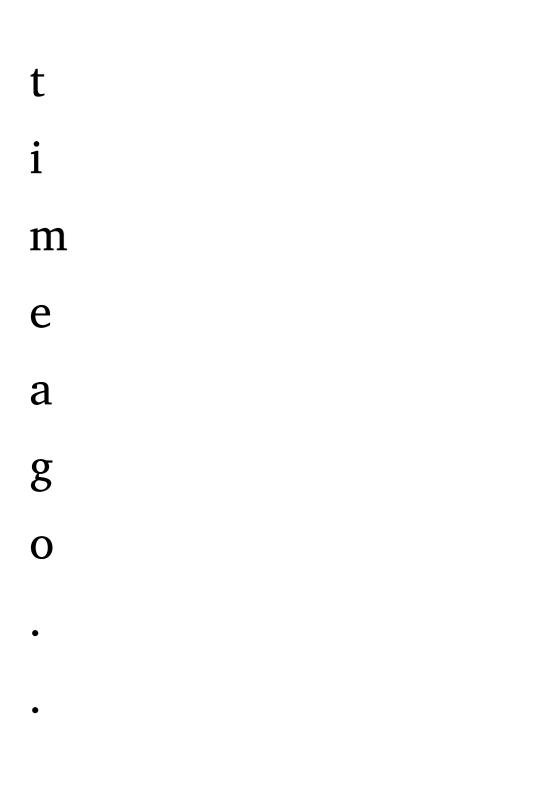
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any years ago, a tribe of Native Americans peacefully near the Niagara River. In order protect themselves from diseases and hung the tribe always asked the god of thunder, lived in a cave under the falls, for protection One day, the god saw Lelawala, the daught great chief Eagle Eye, and decided to keep himself. The Native Americans offered him of flowers, fruit, and game, but the god ins marrying her. Lelawala was courageous an protect her tribe by marrying the god. Sh dressed in white, with a garland of flower a white birch canoe and bravely hurled h falls. But when she fell from the top, the go out his arms and saved her. The

courageous young girl remained forever in the cave under the falls. She was called the Maid of the Mist, because at the base of the falls, there is always a dense mist made of droplets of water.

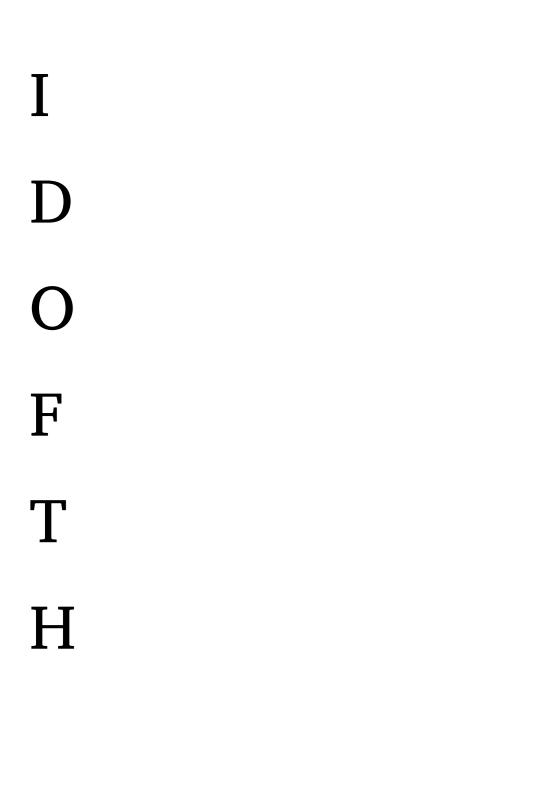
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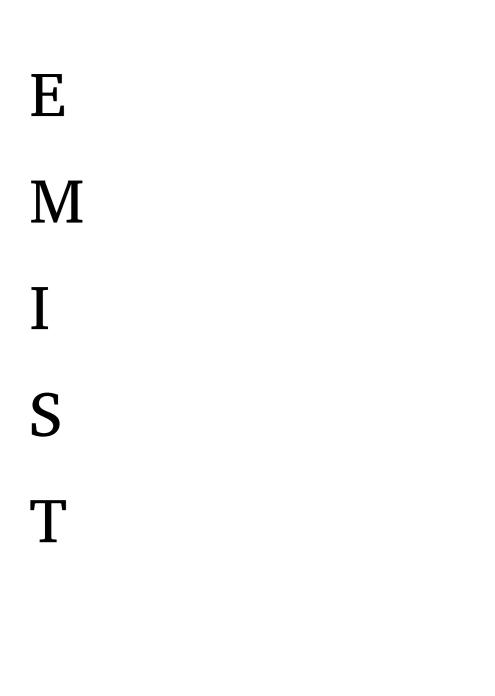
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don't Move,

Punk rAt!

When I finished telling the STO looked up. The boat was reshore.

Right then, I noticed somethin quiet.

Too quiet. I began to get the feetsomething —or someone — was

I ran up and down the boat the little mice.

I was right. We were short one

Can you guess who

missing? Here's a hint: He'

mouse in the class and a pain in That's right, it was Punk Rat.

Suddenly, I spotted the little pe

"One

two

three

four

five

six

seven

eight..."

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shore. He must have been le

the boat took off.

"Don't move, Punk Rat!" I yelled

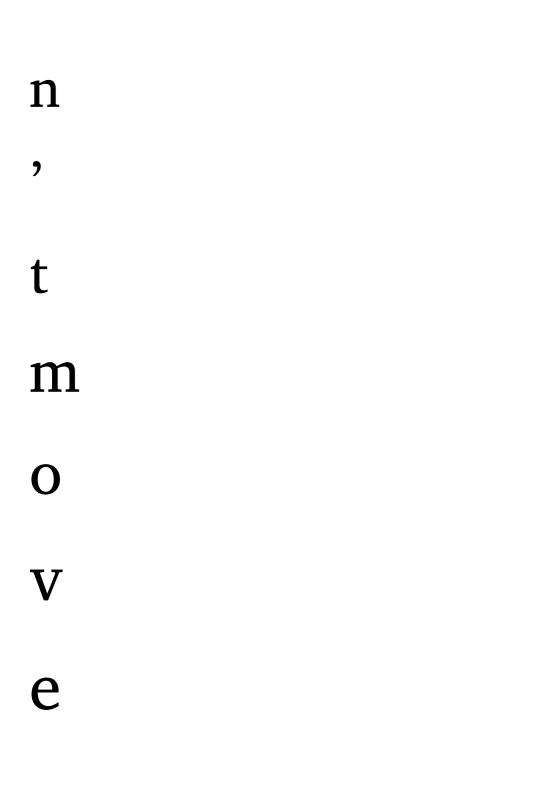
dangerous!

We'll come and pick you up."

"

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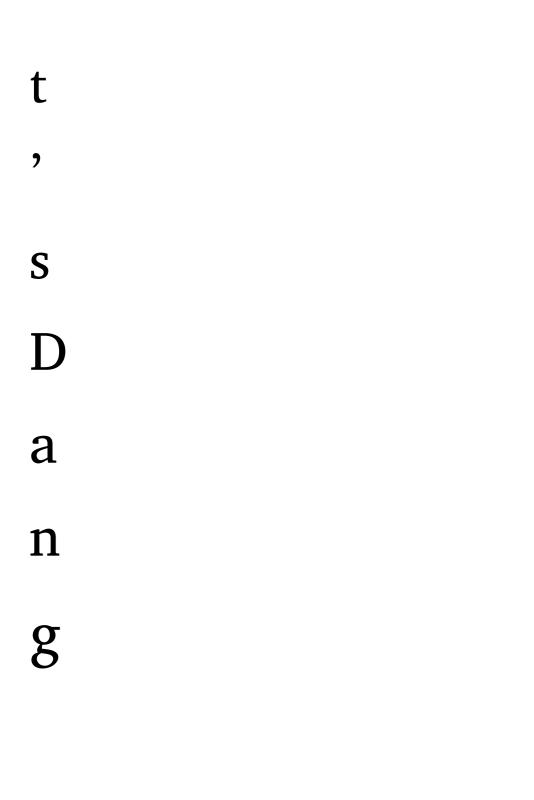


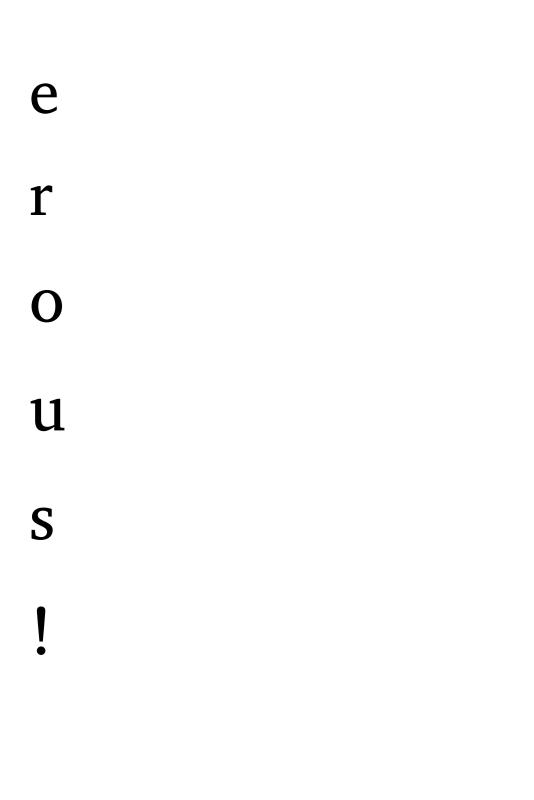
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60 But at that moment, disaster str Rat slipped on a wet rock. He to the water. Η e d

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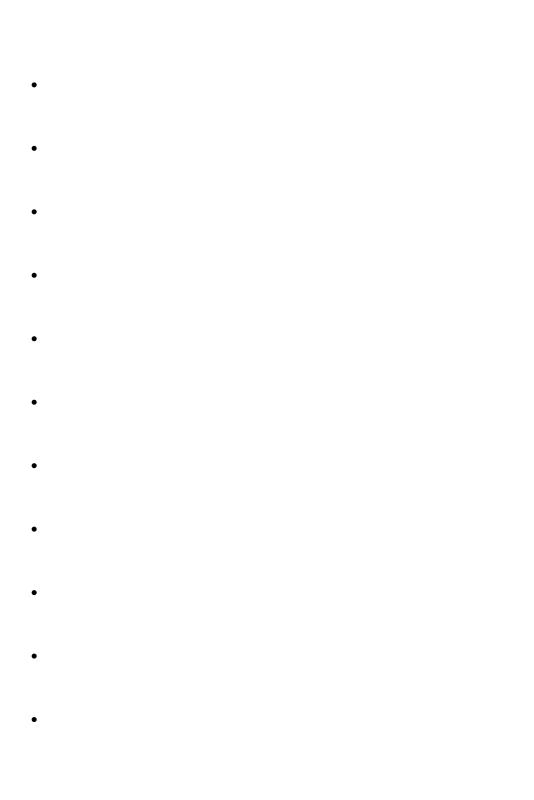
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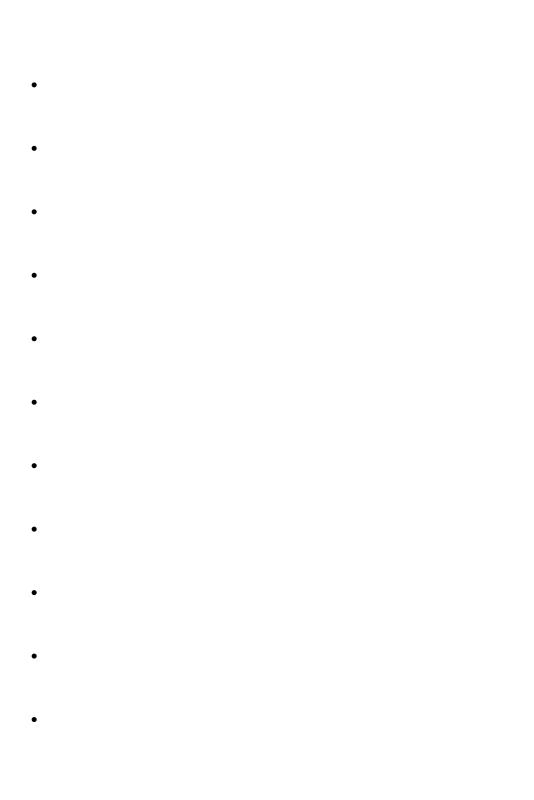
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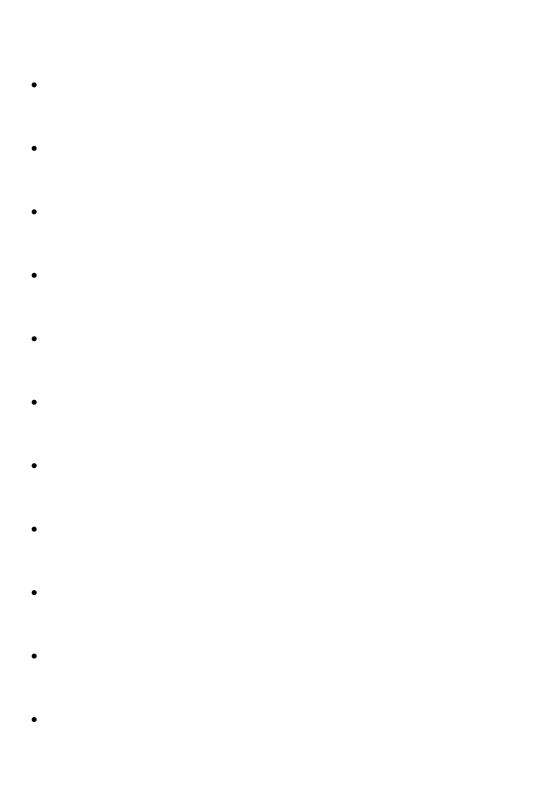
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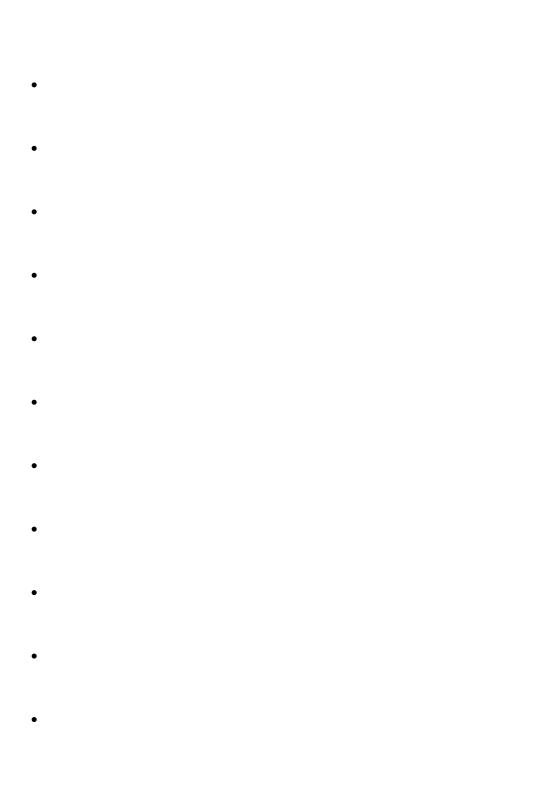
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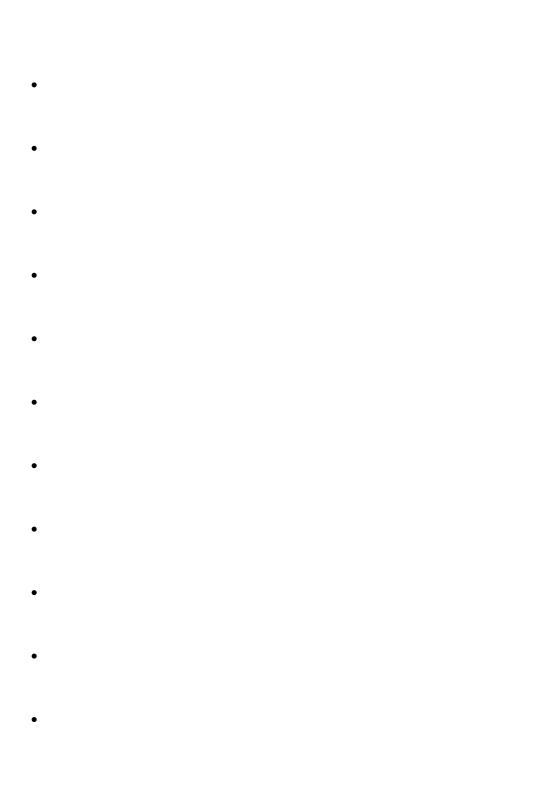
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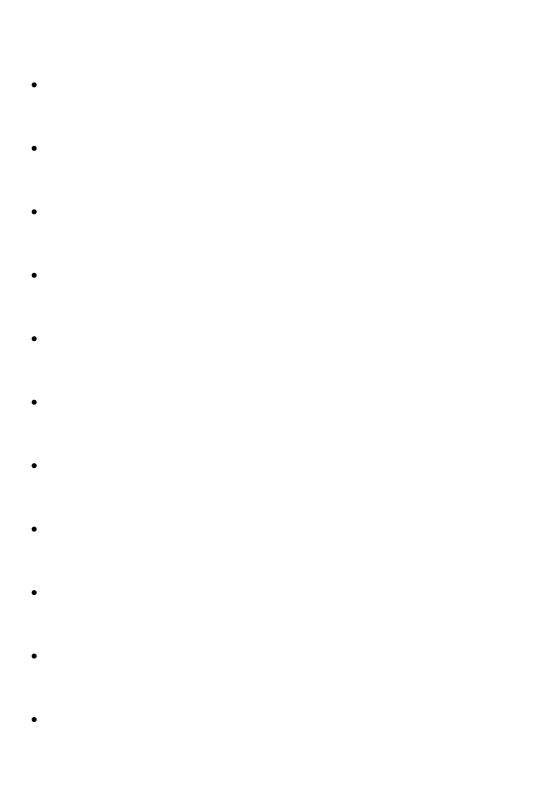


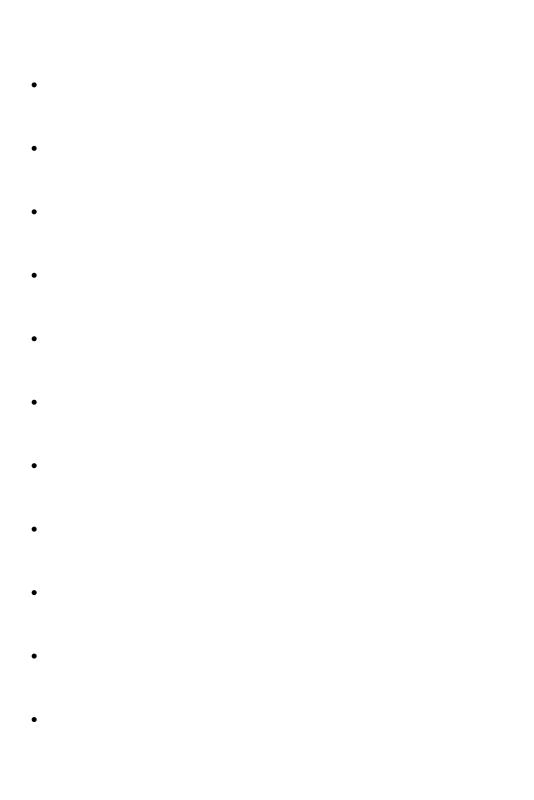


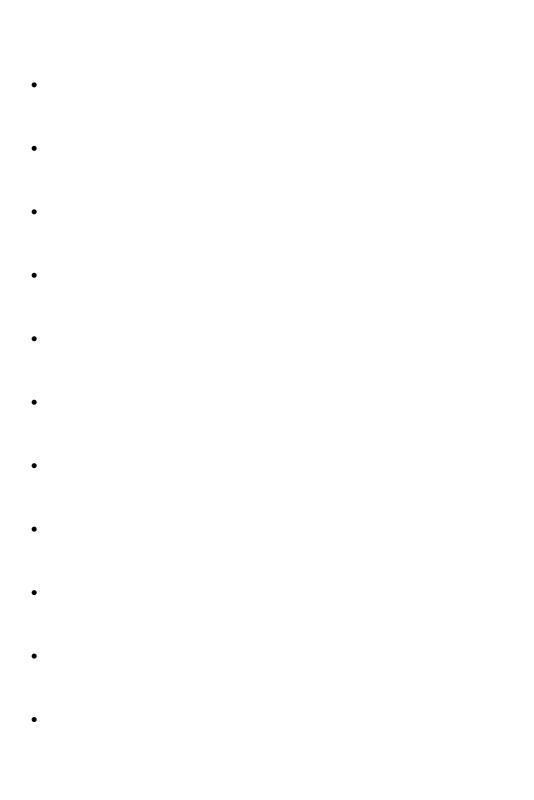


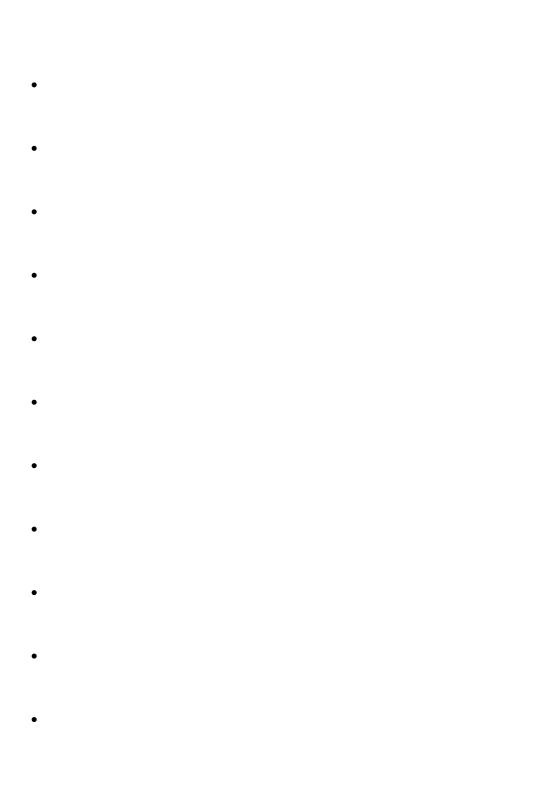


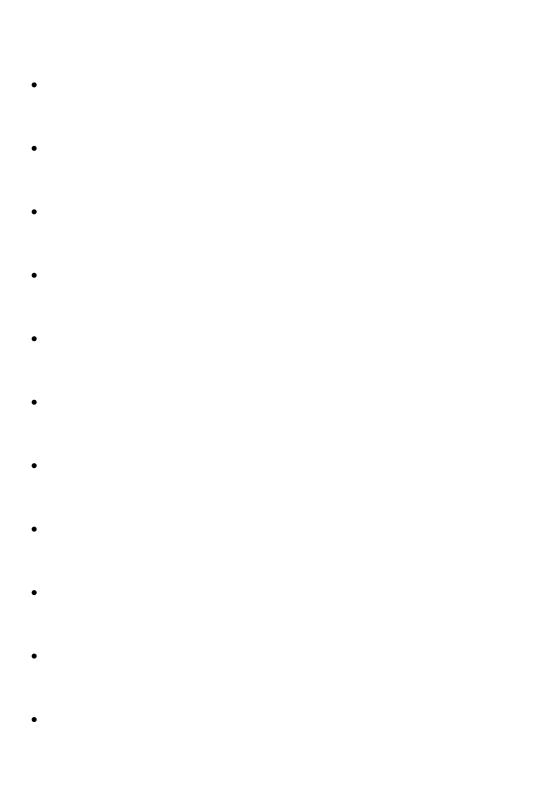


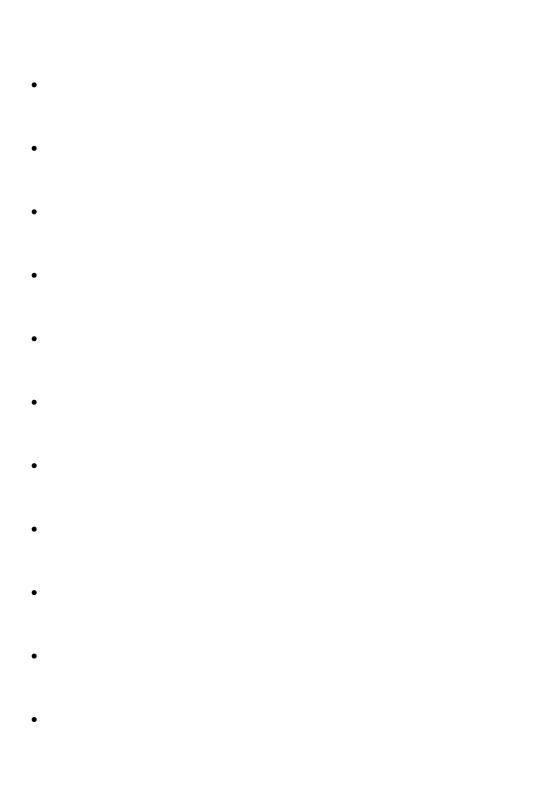


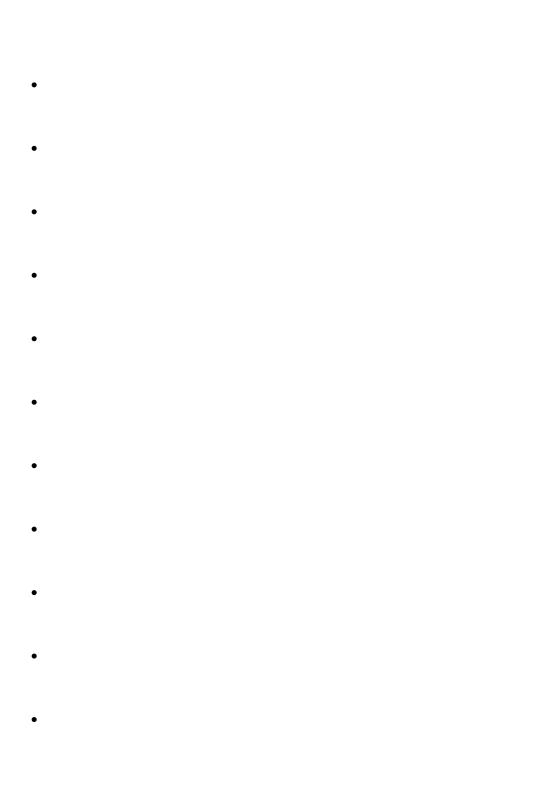


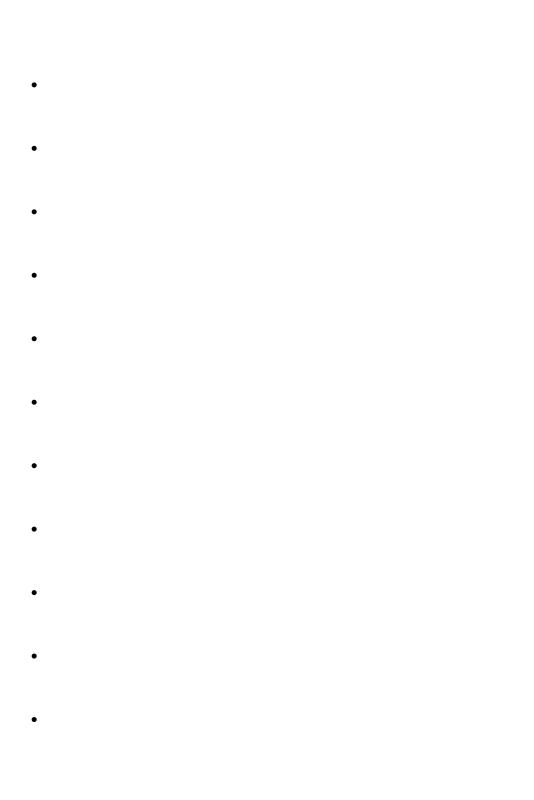


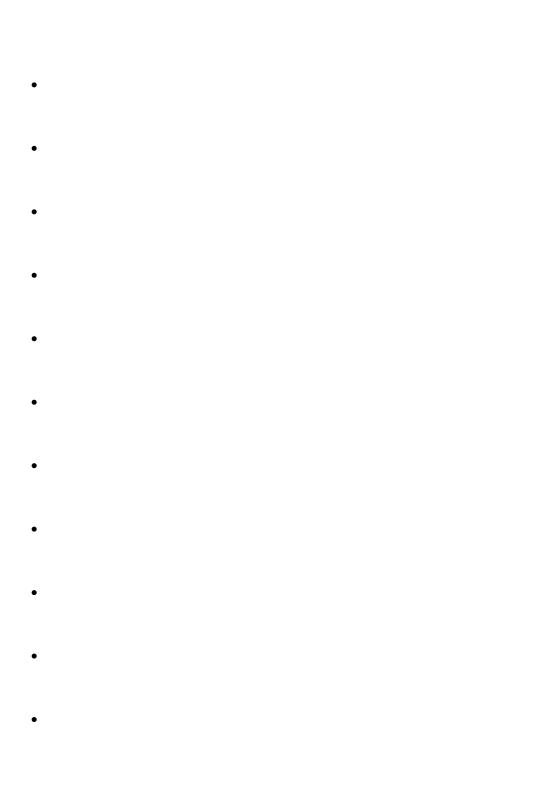


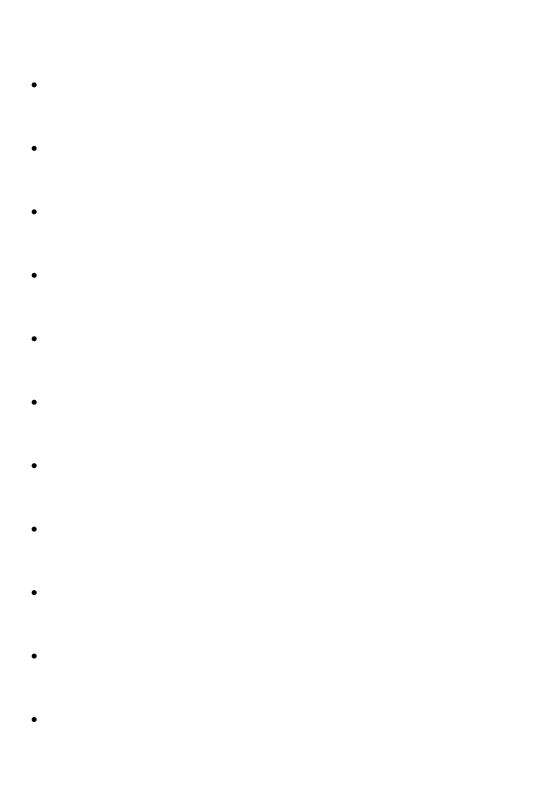


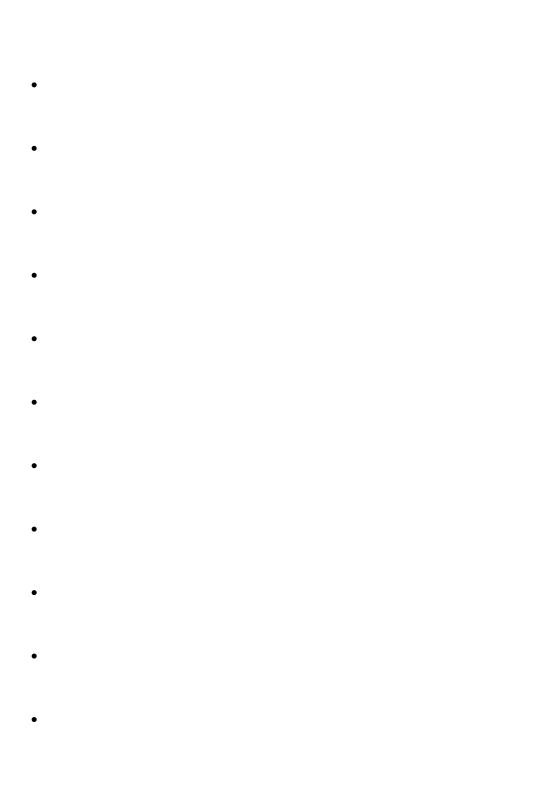


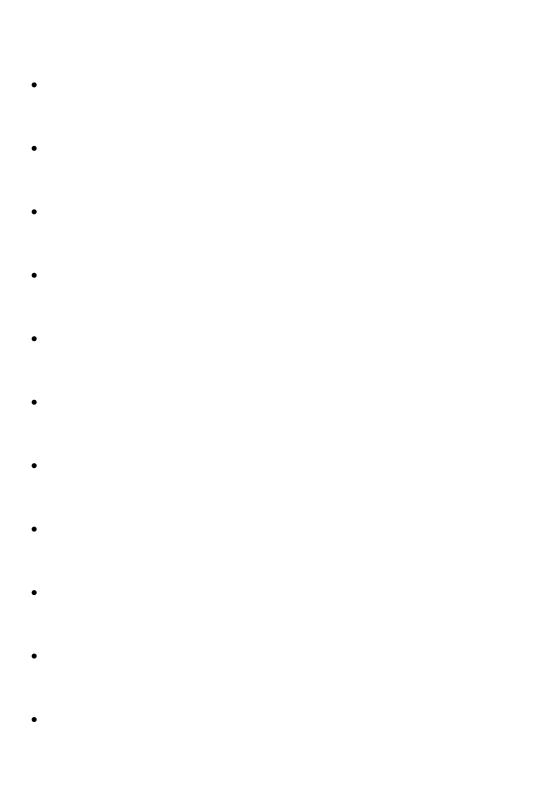


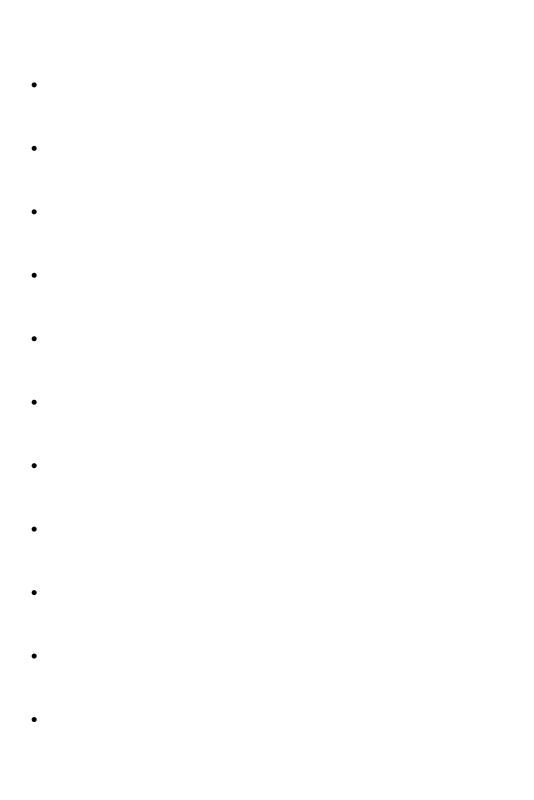


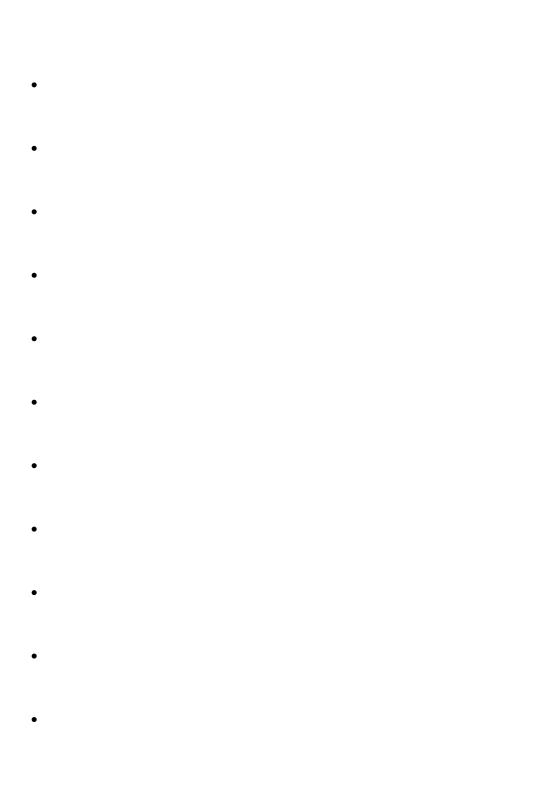


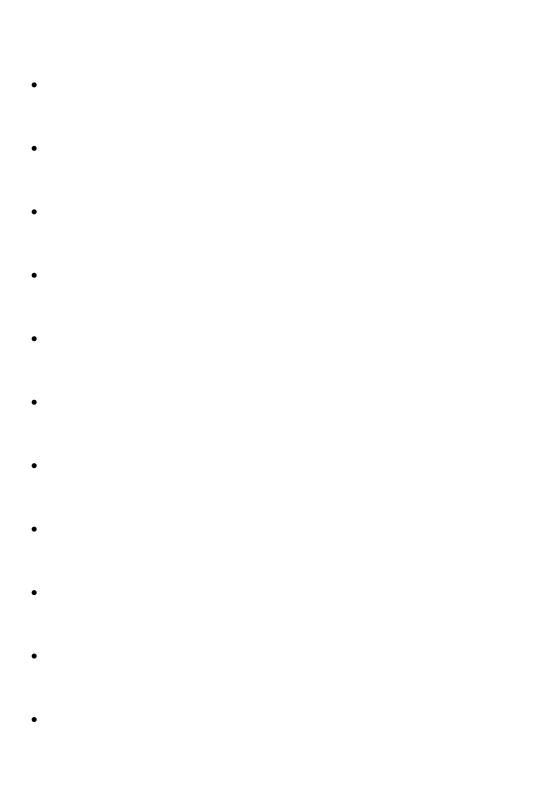


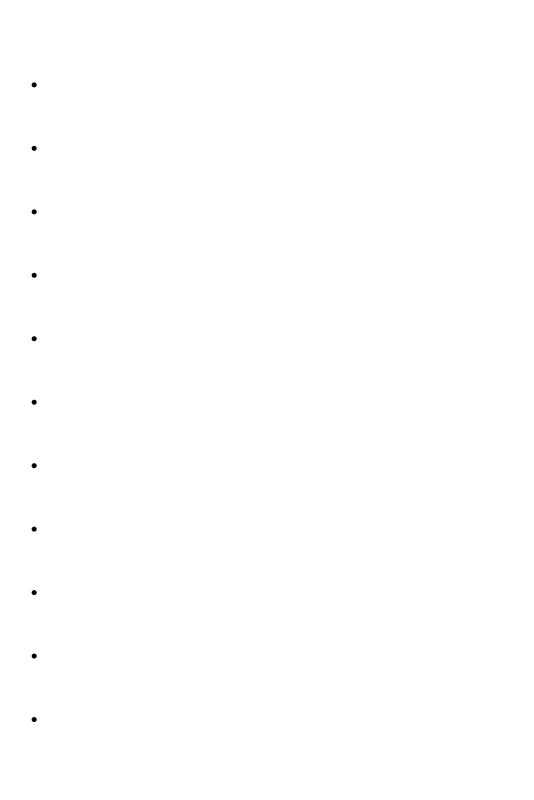


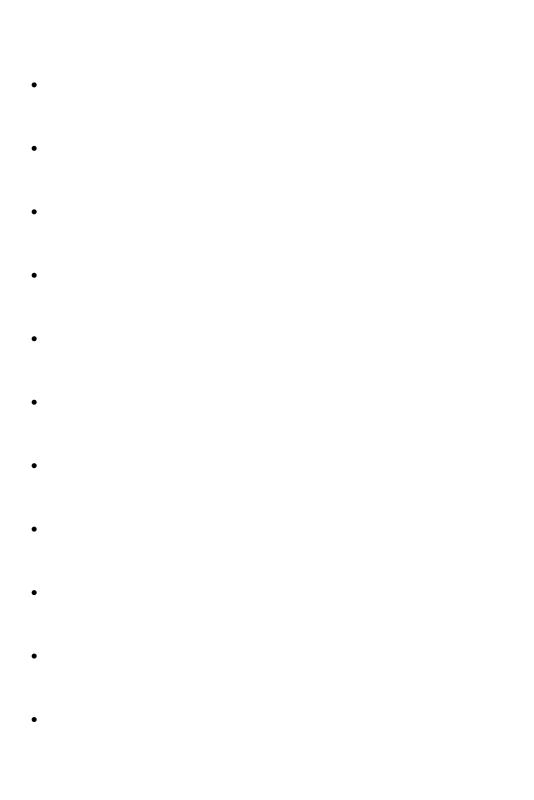


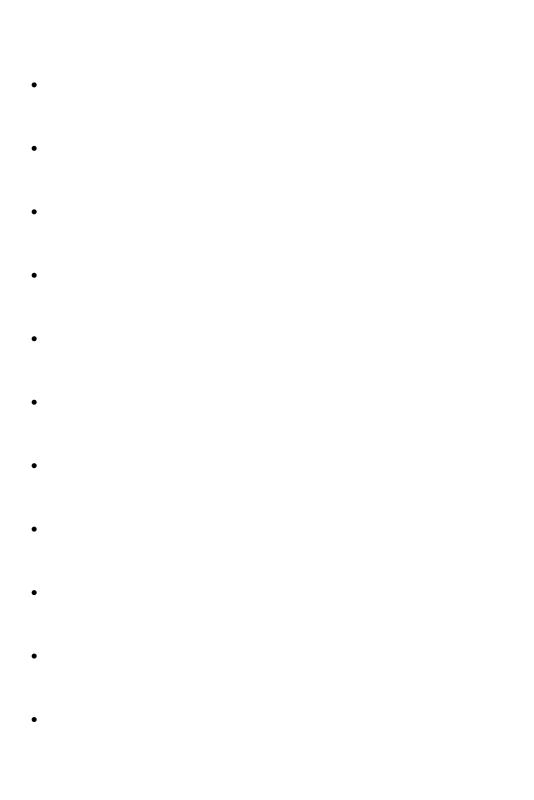


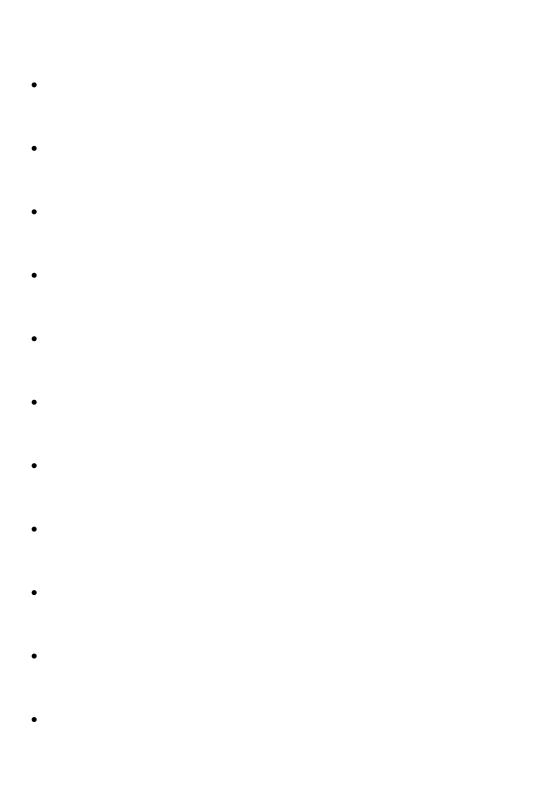


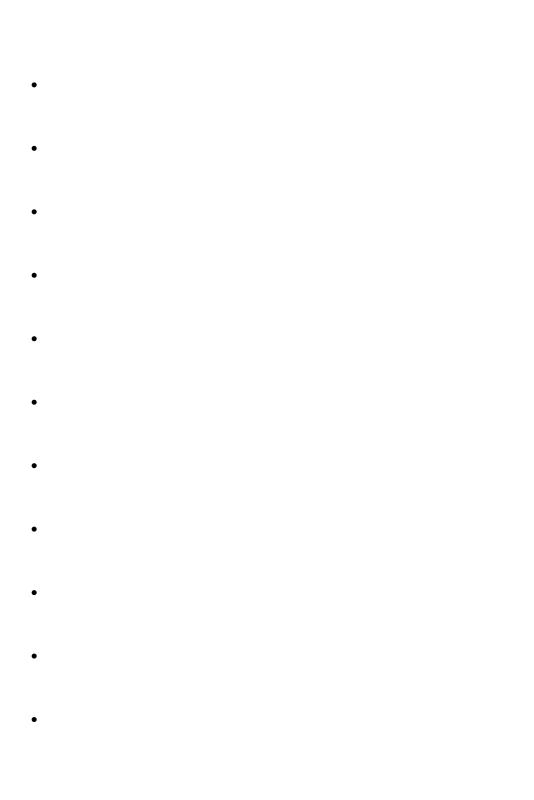


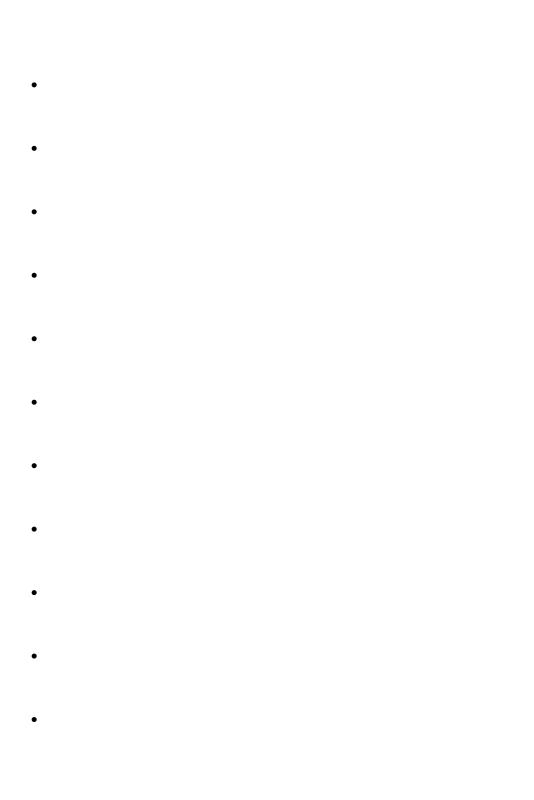


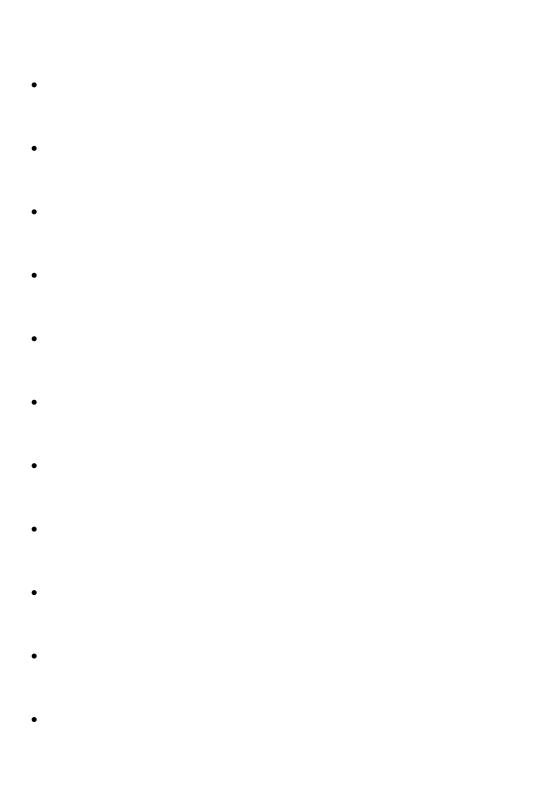


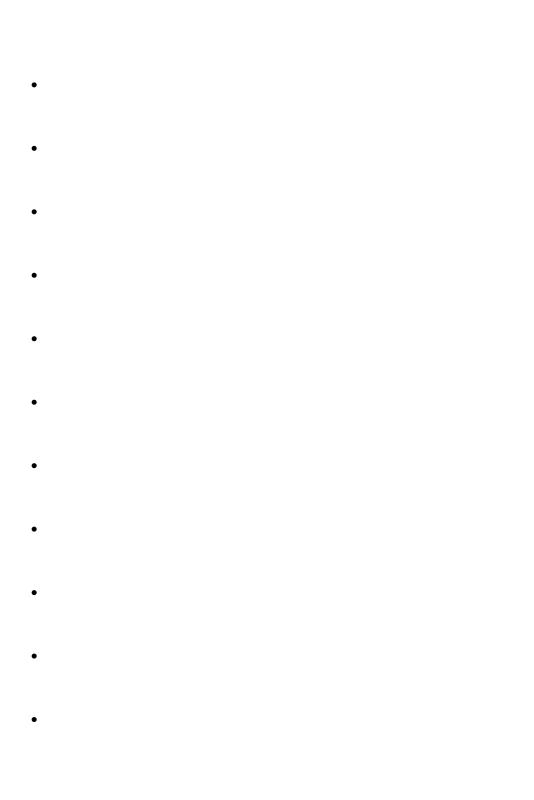


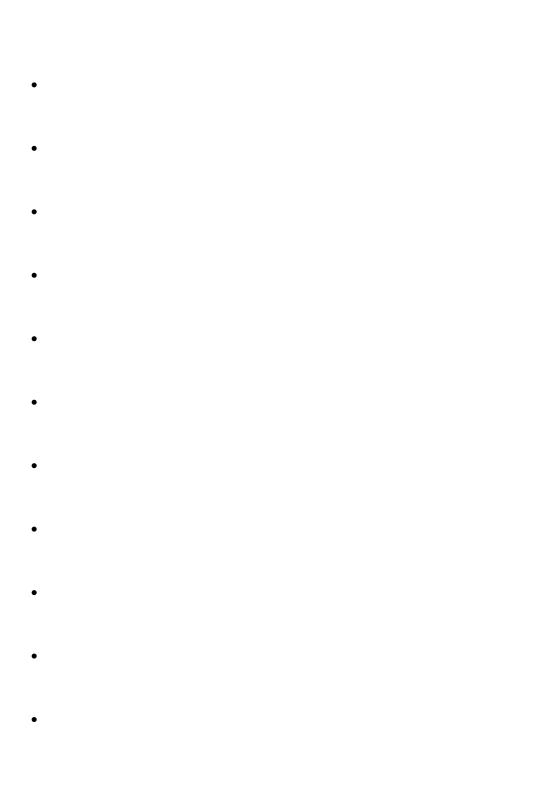


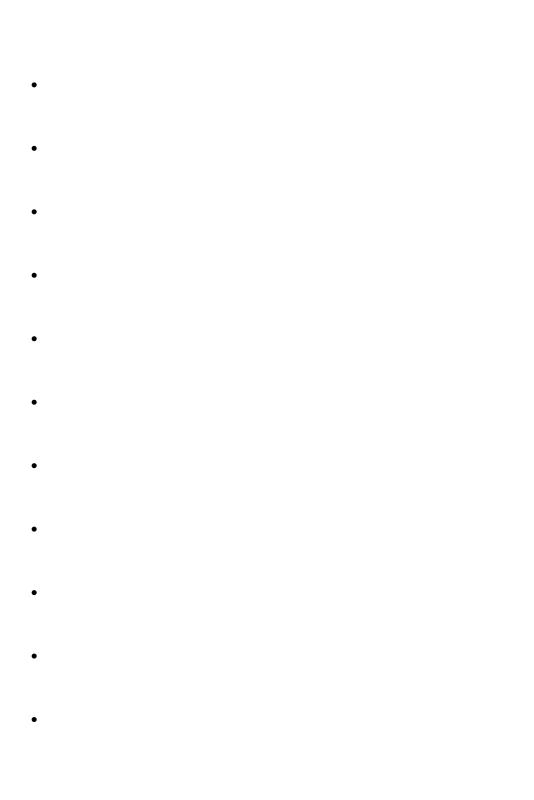




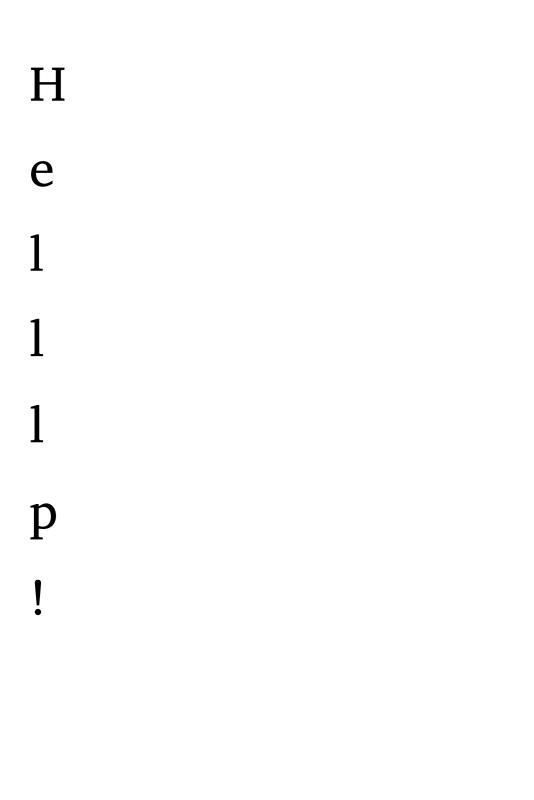












A dive . . . in the

icy WAter!

A little voice inside my head be screaming at me. "Don't just sta Save him!" it yelled. I dove into

wat e r. That's when the o

voice

began screaming. It shrieked,

Icy-cold water soaked into m

nose, even my throat. It blocked voices. All I could think about v Punk Rat.

I swam desperately toward h

Geronimo, are you crazy?

ou

're not

"

a swimmer. You can barely do

laps at the Cheddarville

Y

!

"

see his little head bobbing up in

the waves. His

little paws

waved in the air.

He looked like he was doing water

water ballet dance. I wondered if he h

thought about taking lessons.

I was still thinking about water when things went from bad

Yep,

Punk Rat went under.

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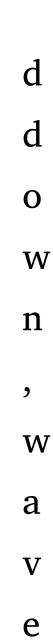
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What could I do?

It was dark under the water.

I could

hardly see a thIng

. Everything was so fuzzy.

Everything was so blurry. Mayb new pair of glasses, I though

realized

I wasn't wearing glasses. I had in

the water!

Luckily, my paw felt sometl was

Punk Rat's tail. I grabbed it. I prup.

Someone threw me a life buoy foot. Then they pulled us in.

Cheesecake! We were saved!

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crunching scraggly

You Are Not

A Mouse . . .

You Are A Hero!

The boat's captain patted me back.

"Nice going, Mr. Stilton!" he of then he led the crowd in a chorcheers.

they shouted.

large

Α

beefy

tourist threw his paws

around me. "That was beautiful," h

"Who would think a little roder like you could do something!
He

embraced me in a hug. I felt all the bones in my body snapping.

accidentally stepped on my foot

I screamed at the top of my lung I quickly wrapped my foot in my bandanna.

Next, a little old lady mouse garkiss. She had tears in her eyes.

"Bravo, young man! You are mouse . . . you are a hero!" she

While she was kissing me, the her purse went into my eye.

I screamed at the top of my lung

felt like it was on fire. I tied a haround my head to soak up the looked just like a PIRATE.

The whole class stared at me. I

The whole class stared at me. I tell they were impressed. Little pirates.

HOT

"You're so lucky to have such a

cool

uncle

," Sakura told Benjamin.

My nephew BEAMED with pr

Punk Rat and I were wet and s

A

sailor wrapped us in a blanket

us

each a cup of chocolate.

My paws were shaking so spilled mine all over me. I

screamed at the top of my lungs

Oh, when would this day come

end

?

Friends . . . Furever!

When Punk Rat stopped shiverish wrapped his paws around my ne "Thank you, Geronimo! You save I'm sorry I played all those dum on you," he gushed.

I tried to say something, but I couldn't move.

Punk Rat was squeezing my nec

breathe.

tightly I was choking!
At last, he let go. Then he shook my paw.

"Friends the little rodent squeaked.

I gave him a weak smile.

FUREVER I croaked, still gasping for breath.

F r i

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S

The Adventure Seekers of N

Many people have come to Niagara Falls adventure. Here are just a few of the mo

splash!

Isn't It

MagnIfIcent,

geronIMo?

Before we got off the boat, Benj spotted something floating in It

was my glasses. I reached over

fish them out, and . . .

I fell in.

I swam to shore. I was wet. I was But I could see! I was in mouse

wondered if my glasses had mis much as I missed them.

We hiked back toward the camp

We took a

I looked around. The leaves on were

such beautiful colors

shortcut through the woods.

red, orange, brown, go

If I were an artist, I would have a picture. But I'm not. In fact, I only mouselet at Little Tails Aca ever fail paw painting.

I trudged along, breathing in the crisp air. I really am a **nature**

heart.

at

"Isn't it magnificent, Geronimo?

Miss Angel Paws said.

Benjamin and his friends were running ahead. At last, I was all with the teacher. I decided now chance. I had to find out more all

beautiful mouse. Maybe we conto

dinner sometime. I wondere would like Le Squeakery. It's my favor

"So, um, Miss Angel Paws,' shyly. "Are you married?"

restaurant.

collapsed

Miss Angel Paws shook her head tear rolled down her fur. in a fit of sobs.

Oh, why did I have such rot with female mice? If they weren't cry

female mice? If they weren't cry were running away from me. The teacher pulled herself toget "Sorry," she

sniffed

. "I am not married.

But I was

in love

once, a long, long time

ago..."

Carefully, she opened a locket wore

around her neck. Inside was a v

"This is his whisker," Miss Ange explained. "It is all I have left o last time I saw him, he was beby an angry cat. I swore I would

in love again "

I sighed. What a sad, sad story

for the whiskerless mouse. I felt

Angel Paws

. Right then, it began to rain.

The water poured down in b

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Love Under a

Cheese-CoLored

UmbreLLa

Suddenly, a mouse appeared ou nowhere. He was carrying a large COLORED umbrella.

"Please, allow me," he said

Miss
Angel Paws. He held the umb
her
head and smiled.

The two rodents stared at each
They stared and stared. I wond
the
staring contest was all abou

noticed something. The mouse with the was

missing a whisker. Could it be? I Just then, the two mice claspe you!" they squeaked together.

Well, that answered that que was

all pretty amazing. I mean, what chances Miss Angel Paws we her lost love at Niagara Falls?

her lost love at Niagara Falls? The finding a cheese cracker overflowing garbage can. It takes more digging.

It takes luck!

I was happy for the teacher. At someone was having a lucky

the other paw, was not. The rain se poured into my ears. I was soaked.

I could see the little mice together in a dry cave up ahead.

Meanwhile, the two love mice cheese-colored umbrella to protect that they seemed to notice

my whiskers. It

my fur. It dribbled down

Miss Angel Paws Gentle Mouse

rainstorm

raining. They looked like they vesseme kind of magic spell. that makes you forget where you are I sighed. I wished I were under

Then I could forget I was standioutside in the middle of a torrest

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A reAl

gentle Mouse

That night, we sat around a crackling campfire. It turned out Miss Angel Paws's friend was a forest ranger. His name was Gentle Mouse. I

wanted not to like him.

After all, I came on this
trip just to spend more
time with Miss Angel Paws.
But how could I hate a rodent
with a name like that?
Gentle Mouse knew a

lot about **nature**. He showed us a maple leaf.

The sap from maple trees can be boiled down and made into maple sugar or maple syrup. When winter turned into spring, Native Americans would make Vshaped slashes in a maple tree trunk and collect the sap in a vessel. Then they would boil the sap down into sugar. The early European settlers learned this way of getting maple sugar from the Native Americans.

"From this

tree

we get maple syrup,"
Gentle Mouse explained. He tole
how they could start their own
dried leaves.

maple syrup

Gather some leaves that have fallen to the Take care to choose the most beautiful or lots of different colors, shapes, and dime As soon as you get home, clean the leaved dry them, place them between two sheet inside a thick book.

notebook or put them in a photo album. Next to each leaf, write its name and the

was collected.

When the leaves are dry and flat, glue th

Near each leaf's common name, you can its botanical name, which can be found i encyclopedia or field guide.

How To Make a Collection

of Dried Leaves

Elm

(Ulmus

americana)

Paper Birch

(Betula

papyrifera)

American

Beech

(Fagus

grandifolia)

American

Chestnut

(Castanea

dentata)

CheeP...CheeP...

CheeP...CheeP..

The next **MOTNINg**, we went for a hike through the woot to

keep up with the group, be tripping
over rocks and twigs Did I ment

over rocks and twigs. Did I ment: much of a sports mouse?

Gentle Mouse pointed out the d plants along the way.

"This is a sugar maple. Its leaf i

Canadian flag," he explained. "The is a chestnut tree. Has anyone extried a chestnut?"

Just then, I saw two bear

blinking
behind the bushes. "Look, a fox

Mouse whispered excitedly.

I gulped. I was okay with pla

wild
animals weren't exactly my
cheddar.

They can be a little scary. No, n downright terrifying!

I scampered past the fox.

Gentle Mouse was busy pointing

6. American Chestnut

Castanea dentata

5. Paper Birch

Betula papyrifera

4. Vine Maple

Acer circinatum

1. Sugar Maple

Acer saccharum

2. Norway Maple

Acer platanoides

3. Red Maple

Acer rubrum

trees and their

leaves

9. Red Oak

Quercus rubra

7. American Beech

Fagus grandifolia

8. American Elm

Ulmus americana

10. Pitch Pine

Pinus rigida

11. Red Pine

Pinus resinosa

12. Balsam Fir

Abies balsamea

evergreens

WOODLAND ANIMALS

OF NORTH AMERICA

- 1. Opossum
- 2. Northern Cardinal
- 3. Moose
- 4. Flying Squirrel
- **5.** Woodpecker
- 6. Wolf
- 7. Cottontail Rabbit
- 8. Raccoon
- 9. Skunk
- 10. Beaver
- 11. River Otter
- 12. Deer
- 4

animals. We saw a beaver, a race even a moose with huge antlers. I couldn't believe how managements

animals
we came across. Suddenly, I hea

chirping. Cheep! Cheep!
I followed the chirping to an

A little bird was lying on the grou

"Help! It's fallen and it can't get told Gentle Mouse. "What shoul

- 1. When you find a little bird fallen to the group for its nest around that area. Leave the bird alow wait a little while ... Its parents could come to o
- 2. If there is no nest, pick the bird up from the 3. If the bird is very small and still without feat
- 4. If the bird has feathers, take a look at its beastrong, feed it grain seeds. If it's long and thin,

feed it, using a dropper.

- 5. Keep the bird in a warm place that is similar its nest, like a box with a woolen cloth.
- 6. As soon as the bird is able to fly, set it free. And remember, ask a parent or adult before touching any wild animal!

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the Forest is

on Fire!

Gentle Mouse showed us how to nest using a box and a towel. some seeds and fed them to the bird

happy chirp. Then it started S11

Holey cheese! What was in those Then I realized the smoke wasn from the bird. It was fillin around

"FIRE!" someone screamed

Gentle Mouse called for help on phone. "

Hurry! The forest is on fire

!" he

us!

cried. "Someone must have campfire burning. Send a plane right awa

Gentle Mouse told everyone to st He divided us up into two team 91

The first team dug fire trenches.

"If we cut down all of the plants

fire

will have nothing to burn,"

Gentle Mouse explained.

The second team formed a lor

that ended at a nearby brook. The fi

in line filled a pail with

water

. Then he passed it down the line. The las line threw the water on the flan We worked like pack rats, but the heat was becoming unbeara My fur was **scorched**. The smoke was making me choke. Suddenly, a miracle happen heard

the sound of engines. It was a p carrying an enormouse tank fill

water! The plane dumped the water from the lake. We were sa

before we could celebrate, Gent began shouting. "Has anyone s

Miss Angel Paws?"

"I saw her running toward

I think she was trying to help a fawn," Kay cried.

Gentle Mouse yelled. "

'll save you!"

bushes.

He disappeared in a cloud of s

minutes later, he returned. carrying the teacher in his paws. "I giggled

Miss Angel Paws. "He saved the I felt a twinge of jealousy. Why I be someone's hero? Still, I had to admit, Miss Angel Paws and Gentle Mouse were a

match made in mouse

heaven.

"

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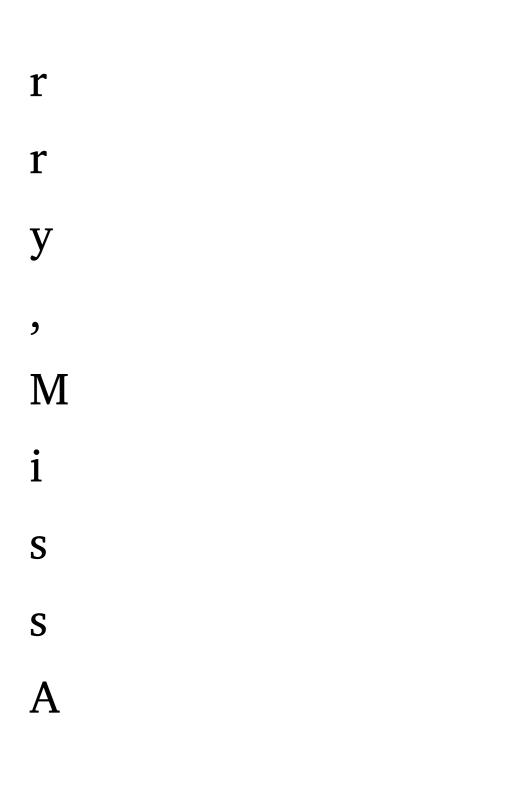
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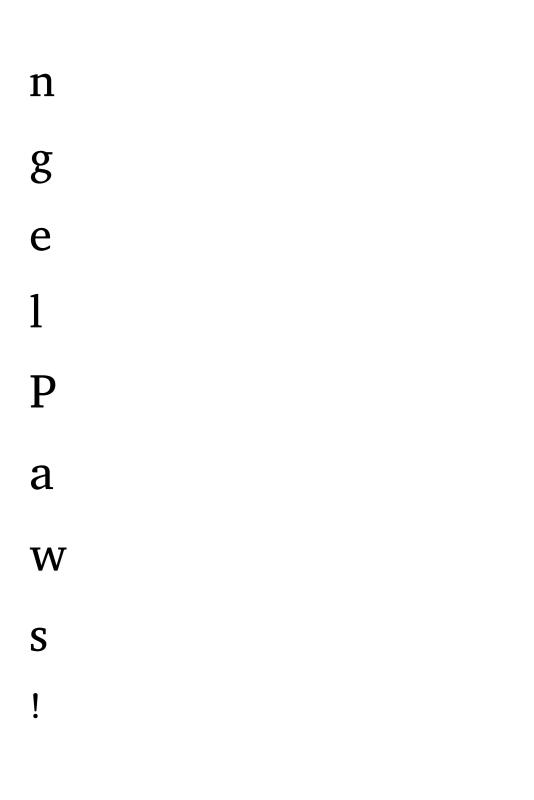
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SurPrise For You!

That night, the two love mican

announcement. Can you gues

was?

Yes, they had decided to get ma

"hooray!" cried the class. Ever

was so excited. But they more excited when they heard that Miss and Gentle Mouse wanted to ge

immediately. They had been missing each other for years. They didn't want to wait any longer.

"We can do it right here in Niagara Falls!" Miss Angel Paws squeaked.

We put our heads together to pl ceremony. It would have to be p

simple. There would

wedding

gown or fancy wedding c

where could we get a dress and

the

all,

middle of the wilderness?

I called my sister to ask for her

I said, that mouse just loves a cl

An hour later, my cell phone **T** was Thea. "Hey, Gerry Berry, have surprise for you!" she squeaked

gulped

. A surprise? From my sister?

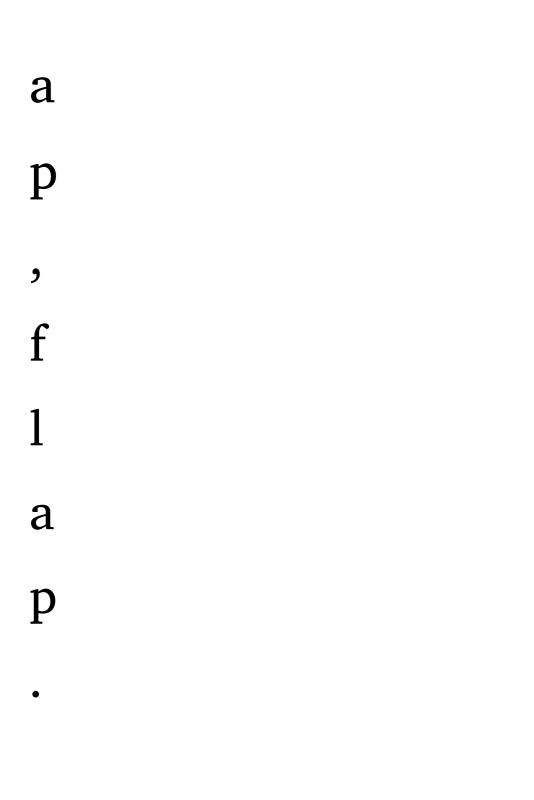
The last time she surprised me, my whole apartment in pink cat fur

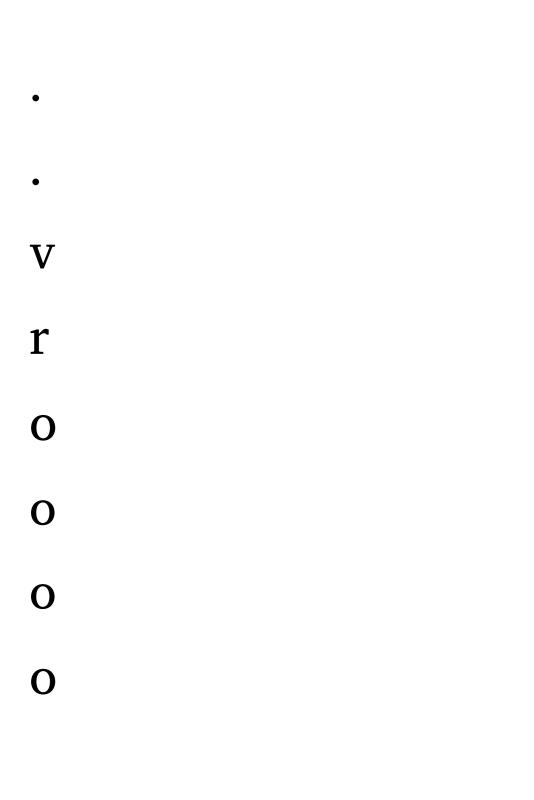
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Flap, Flap, Flap...

Vroooooommmm!

Right at that instant, I heard a S

noise over my head.

I looked up and screamed.

A pink helicopter was circling about

Pink sugar-coated almonds rained do

all around me.

Pink

invitations with the bride's and groom's names on them flew that air.

A bunch of thorny pink roses h

the snout. Youch!

So this was my sister's surprise.

relieved. I'd take a thorn in the snout over that awful pink carpeting any day.

I told everyone who the nutty mouse flying the plane was.

"My sister loves pink,"

I added.

At that moment, an enormouse pink package struck me on the head. Before

I fainted, I noticed a note on the side of the box. It said: When I came to, the others were busy opening Thea's package. No one gave me a second glance. I snorted. So much for mousely manners. It Pink almonds Pink notes Pink roses For Angel Paws

and Gentle Mouse

Angel Paws and

Gentle Mouse

was clear that all anyone cared the box.

What was inside? It was a full-le wedding dress and a tux. Now e was happy. Well, everyone except that is. A lump had formed on the head. It was the size of a megal of

mozzarella!

The surprise package

Congratulation

BARBECUE!

Come one, Come all.

Get ready for the best barbeCue
this side of niaGara falls!

b

rouGht to you by the

best Chef in the world!

bArbecue tiMe!

After the wedding ceremo

headed

back to the campsite. When we

we were overwhelmed by a delistic smell. I sniffed the air. Could it it smelled just like a backyar barbecue.

I ran toward the campsite. Tha

spotted a big poster leaning rock.

It said:

I scratched my fur. There was o rodent I knew who was the himself.

There was only one rodent I

was that irritating. . .such a pain!

My cousin Trap!

Just then, a pair of whiskers from

behind a cloud of smoke. A po

rodent wearing a loud Haw shirt stood behind a smoking grill. H

what's squeaking?" he smirked.
lump on your head. It's sooooo y
I rolled my eyes. Yep, it was my

Trap, all right. Have I mention

pain

total

in my tail?

I started to explain about the 1

```
head when Trap interrupted me
"Listen up, rodents!" he called.
about to taste the best cooking
```

greasy spatula at me. "Yo,

Germeister

,

Yum! Yum!

Yum-Yum!

DELICIOUS!

don't drag your feet, it's time to that you've found Trap, you away

your map. That's TRAP —

T as in LOOK OUT, TONGUE, YOU'RE IN for A Treat!

R as in READY OR NOT, HERE IT

A as in ASK ME IF I CAN COOK.

P as in PAY ATTENTION, THE NAME IS

TRAP!"

Yes, there is one thing you show about my cousin. He's in love.

another mouse. With himself!

T
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Yum!
Yum!
Y11m!
Still, I had to admit his
barbecue was delicious. I
stuffed my snout like my uncle
Cheesebelly at a make-your-
own-cheese-sundae buffet
After dessert, Thea took
me on a helicopter ride over
```

the falls. It really was a SPECTECULAR sight. Too bad I got sick on the way down. I knew I shouldn't have eaten three piece of cheesecake

little Mice

A

round the World

Finally, it was time to go he boarded

the plane headed for Mouse Isla another long flight. The li

climbed

all over me. Then they sang so top
of their lungs. I didn't get one b
Still, I was kind of sad when w

I was going to miss those little ro

As we were waiting for our luggemade an announcement. "Yo

made an announcement. "Yo invited to visit me at The Rodent's C told

the class. "You can see how we newspaper together. You can a

book is made

"HOORAY!" the little mice cheer

Then Punk Rat grabbed my paw.

"I'm going to miss you, Mr. Geron he sobbed.

I patted his head.

"I'll miss you too, Punk Rat," I sa but remember, my name is Ger

Geronimo Stilton."

"of course, Mr. Geronimity," P

squeaked.

I tried to remain calm. "It's Geron:

Rat," I repeated. "That's G-E-R-O-N Punk Rat smirked. "That's what Mr. Geronimoose," he giggled.

I gave up. What else could I do Punk Rat flung his paws around He really wasn't such a bad little In fact, he was just like lots of little.

around the world — full of lif and, oh, of course, cheese to trAvel . . .

is better thAn

to Arrive

We headed for the airport exit.

bus was waiting for Miss Angel

her class. I waved good-bye. "I'll

home," I told them.

ionic, i tola them.

A line of cheese-colored cabs v

the curb. But for some reason, didn't want to budge. My bag fe weighed a ton. An overwhelming f sadness

came over me. It had been such exciting adventure.

And now it was over.

Just then, I remembered

a line from one of my favorite authors. His name

was Robert Louis Squeakenson.

Do you know him? He wrote a book called Treasure

Island. Anyway, he said that to travel is better

than to arrive.

Well, I don't know if that is tr the

time. Usually, I am thrilled to g

my comfy, cozy mouse hole. But the still

had the travel bug in me.

And so I did what any smar would

do. I turned around and headed righthe airport. I, Geronimo Stilto

a trip to

Blue Cheese Island

. I

hear it's supposed to be beautiful time of year. Blue skies, blue wat R
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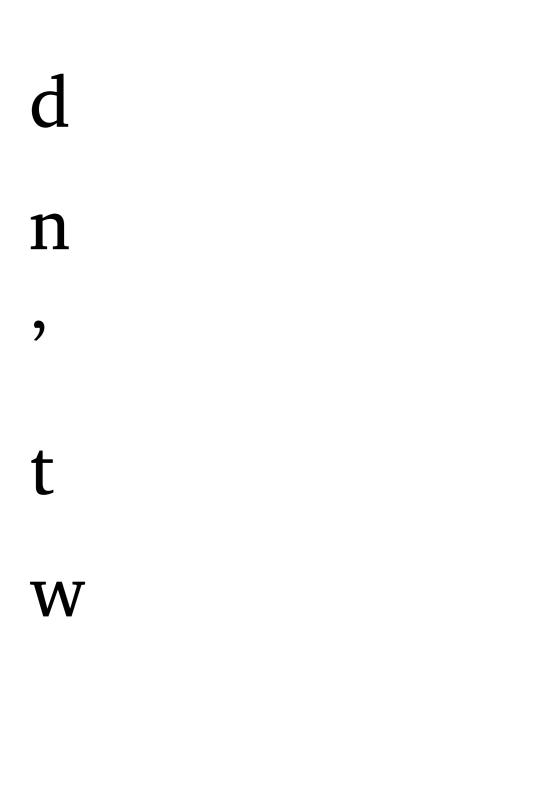
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and lots of blue cheese.

Born in New Mouse City, Mouse Island,

Geronimo stilton

is Rattus Emeritus of Mousomorphic

Literature and of Neo-Ratonic

Comparative Philosophy. For the past twenty years, he has been running The Rodent's Gazette, New most widely read daily newspaper

Stilton was awarded the Ratitzer F scoops on The Curse of the Cheese The Search for Sunken Treasure. F received the Andersen 2000 Prize for the Year. One of his bestsellers won Award for world's best ratlings' elec works have been published all over In his spare time, Mr. Stilton colle cheese rinds and plays golf. But w enjoys is telling stories to his nephe

A

BOUT THE

A UTHOR

- 1. Main entrance
- 2. Printing presses (where the books and newspaper are printed)
- 3. Accounts department
- 4. Editorial room (where the editors, illustrators, and designers work)
- 5. Geronimo Stilton's office
- 6. Helicopter landing pad

The RodenT's

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- 1. Industrial Zone
- 2. Cheese Factories
- 3. Angorat International
- Airport
- 4. WRAT Radio and
- **Television Station**
- 5. Cheese Market
- 6. Fish Market
- 7. Town Hall
- 8. Snotnose Castle
- 9. The Seven Hills of
- Mouse Island
- 10. Mouse Central Station
- 11. Trade Center
- 12. Movie Theater
- 13. Gym
- 14. Catnegie Hall
- 15. Singing Stone Plaza

- 16. The Gouda Theater
- 17. Grand Hotel
- 18. Mouse General Hospital
- 19. Botanical Gardens
- 20. Cheap Junk for Less
- (Trap's store)
- 21. Aunt Sweetfur and
- Benjamin's House
- 22. Mouseum of
- Modern Art
- 23. University and Library
- 24. The Daily Rat
- 25. The Rodent's Gazette
- 26. Trap's House
- 27. Fashion District
- 28. The Mouse House
- Restaurant
- 29. Environmental

Protection Center

- 30. Harbor Office
- 31. Mousidon Square

Garden

- 32. Golf Course
- 33. Swimming Pool
- 34. Tennis Courts
- 35. Curlyfur Island

Amousement Park

- 36. Geronimo's House
- 37. Historic District
- 38. Public Library
- 39. Shipyard
- 40. Thea's House
- 41. New Mouse Harbor
- 42. Luna Lighthouse
- 43. The Statue of Liberty
- 44. Hercule Poirat's Office

45. Petunia Pretty Paws's

House

46. Grandfather William's

House

Map of New Mouse City

Cat's

Claw

Bay 17

This way to the Mousific Ocean This way to the Ratlantic Ocean This way to the Sea of Mice This way to the Rodent Straits Stray Cat Harbor Furflung Island Hamster Islands C 0 r a 1 R e e f

Brigand's Isle

Tomcat Island

Panther

Archipelago

Blue Dolphin

Bay

Mousefort Beach

New Mouse City

San Mouscisco

Swissville

Mouseport

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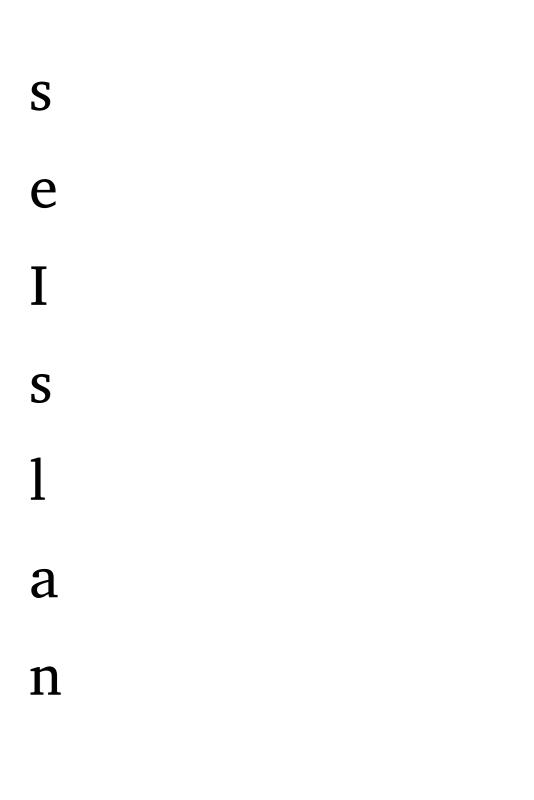
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- 1. Big Ice Lake
- 2. Frozen Fur Peak
- 3. Slipperyslopes Glacier
- 4. Coldcreeps Peak
- 5. Ratzikistan
- 6. Transratania
- 7. Mount Vamp
- 8. Roastedrat Volcano
- 9. Brimstone Lake
- 10. Poopedcat Pass
- 11. Stinko Peak
- 12. Dark Forest
- 13. Vain Vampires Valley
- 14. Goose Bumps Gorge
- 15. The Shadow Line Pass
- 16. Penny Pincher Castle
- 17. Nature Reserve Park
- 18. Las Ratayas Marinas

- 19. Fossil Forest
- 20. Lake Lake
- 21. Lake Lakelake
- 22. Lake Lakelakelake
- 23. Cheddar Crag
- 24. Cannycat Castle
- 25. Valley of the Giant
- Sequoia
- 26. Cheddar Springs
- 27. Sulfurous Swamp
- 28. Old Reliable Geyser
- 29. Vole Vale
- 30. Ravingrat Ravine
- 31. Gnat Marshes
- 32. Munster Highlands
- 33. Mousehara Desert
- 34. Oasis of the

Sweaty Camel

- 35. Cabbagehead Hill
- 36. Rattytrap Jungle
- 37. Rio Mosquito

Map of Mouse Island

Dear mouse friends,

Thanks for reading, and fartill the next book.

It'll be another whisker-lich adventure, and that's a pro-

Benjamin

Trap

Geronimo STilTon

Thea

www.scholastic.com/ geronimo stilton

Who is Geronimo Stilton?

That's me! I run a newspaper, but my true passion is writing adventus stories. Here in New Mouse City, to capital of Mouse Island, my books are all bestsellers! My stories are funny, fa-mouse-ly funny. They are

whisker-licking-good tales, and the a promise!

FIELD TRIP TO

NIAGARA FALLS

Holey cheese, what an adventur

trip with my nephew Benjamin's class. It was a beautiful place — trone of the most amazing sights I'd

ever seen. But unfortunately, I was surrounded by mischievous young mouselets who seemed determined

send me over the Falls in a barrel!
Oh, would I ever make it back to
Mouse Island alive?

RL3 007-010